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Closures a 'crying shame'

Conservatory, children's farm on Park Board chopping block

KRISTEN THOMPSON and STIG NIELSEN
Metro Vancouver

Louise Leask has been bringing her out-of-town visitors to the Bloedel Conservatory since it opened 40 years ago, and says it's a "crying shame" her favourite attraction is set to shut down in March.

"Tourists come to see all the beautiful tropical birds and fish and plants — everything we don't get to see (every day)," said Leask on Thursday. She was at Queen Elizabeth Park with a visiting cousin.

"I really think they should do anything to save it."

The Vancouver Park Board voted 4-3 on Wednesday night to cut funding to the conservatory and the children's farmyard in Stanley Park to cover a $2.8-million budget shortfall.

The conservatory was losing about $240,000 a year. As for the farmyard, which was losing $160,000 annually, the plan is to immediately begin searching for homes for the animals.

Park Board commissioner Ian Robertson voted against the cuts and said there hasn't been enough public consultation into the matter.

He said a private donor has offered $100,000 over the next four years to save the farmyard, and he's received another "sizable" donation offer.

"You can't sustain continual losses, and I understand that. But I think it would have been prudent … to at least give staff 60 days to come up with an alternate means of operating both facilities."

Park Board commissioner Raj Hundal said "difficult decisions had to be made."

"We maintained the core services like ensuring we are keeping our community centres open and that we have lifeguards," he said. "In a perfect world we're able to keep the (venues), but (we were) asked to prioritize."

City council

• The Park Board budget, which calls for the closure of the Bloedel Conservatory, above, will be presented to city council on Dec. 3.

Linden's Light

JEFF HOSOKAWA/METRO VANCOUVER

Trevor Linden with the Olympic torch at the Pacific Centre rotunda in Vancouver on Thursday. The former Canucks captain, who is carrying the torch on Feb. 11 in Coquitlam, met fans and signed autographs. Story, page 4.

Games security stands on guard against H1N1

OLYMPICS An extra 750 police officers will be standing by for the 2010 Winter Games in case the H1N1 flu pandemic thins their ranks.

While the plan for the Olympics always included a staff contingency in case of a major emergency, the head of Games security says those officers could also be called in if the flu becomes a major issue.

RCMP Assistant Commissioner Bud Mercer says with the close quarters for his staff there is the risk that a flu bug could spread quickly.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News on the Move

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Local

Holiday experience at aquarium

Scuba Claus will be taking at dip in the Strait of Georgia exhibit at the Vancouver Aquarium on Friday. The venue will also be providing a sneak preview of The Polar Express 4-D experience. The aquarium's holiday experience runs until Jan. 3. METRO VANCOUVER

METRO INTERNATIONAL NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR
2009 Festival of Media Awards

Hotel being made temporary hostel

VANCOUVER 2010 Games

ACCOMMODATION An East Vancouver hotel will be used as a temporary youth hostel for the 2010 Winter Olympics.

Starting next week, the Eldorado Hotel at 2330 Kingsway will have 100 beds available daily leading up to the Games at a cost of $34 per night, according to VANOC. The number of beds will increase to around 300 when the Olympics start in February. It'll continue operating as a hostel until mid-March.

Accommodation will be dorm-style and include an "affordable" breakfast, Internet and TV lounge.

Donna Wilson, VANOC's executive vice-president of people and sustainability, said organizers expect a lot of young travellers will start arriving in Vancouver in the coming weeks.

"This hostel will provide them with an affordable place to bed down for the night without impacting the city's shelters or low-income housing," she said in a release. METRO VANCOUVER

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Student union takes tuition beef to UN

KRISTEN THOMPSON
kristen.thompson@metronews.ca

EDUCATION The University of B.C.'s student union has filed a complaint with the United Nations for what it says is our government's failure to provide affordable post-secondary education.

"When Canada signed on to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, they made a commitment to work toward free post-secondary education," said Katrina Pacey, a lawyer with Pivot Legal Society representing UBC's Alma Mater Society.

"Instead, the government has increased tuition rates on an annual basis. For low-income students ... it is becoming very difficult to attend (university)."

Tristan Markle, a recent UBC graduate, said he accrued more than $40,000 in debt as a student, and he often had to work full-time to cover his tuition fees, which detracted from his education.

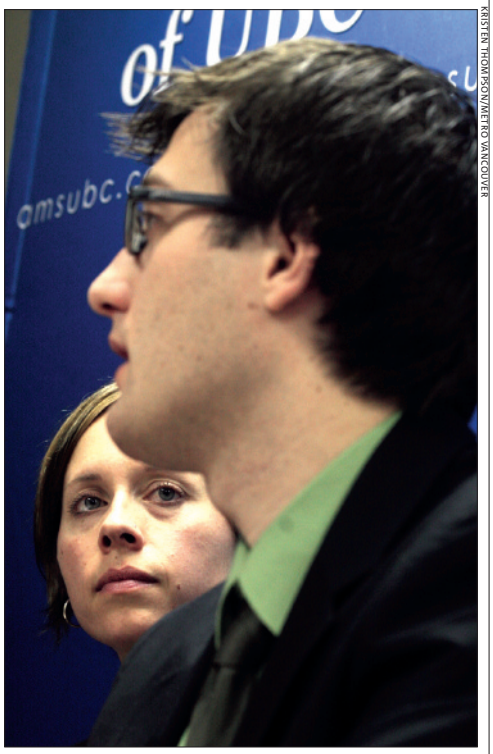
"(My) average monthly (loan) payment is comparable to rent," he said, adding that the average B.C. student graduates $27,000 in debt.

Markle added that financial barriers are the number 1 factor preventing students from going to university.

Blake Frederick, president of the AMS, said student fees in British Columbia have more than doubled since the tuition freeze was lifted in 2002.

"No person should be denied education due to a lack of financial resources," Frederick said.

The complainants are seeking better-regulated tuition rates, increased funding to schools so students don't have to pay for overhead costs, and more resources for non-repayable grants and bursaries.



KRISTEN THOMPSON/METRO VANCOUVER

Lawyer Katrina Pacey, left, and UBC AMS president Blake Frederick at the Pivot Legal Society office in Vancouver yesterday.

Tuition fees in Canada

Average full-time undergraduate tuition fees for 2009/2010:
- Canadian average: $4,747, up 3.6 per cent from the previous year.
- British Columbia: $4,840, up two per cent from the previous year.
- Highest province: Ontario — $5,951. Up five per cent from the previous year.
- Lowest province: Newfoundland — $2,619. No change from the previous year.

City reworks Games bylaws

Illegal commercial signs targeted

VANCOUVER 2010 Games

JEFF HODSON
jeff.hodson@metronews.ca

Vancouver has redrafted its Olympic bylaws to counter fears that enforcement officers will be kicking down doors to stifle political expression during the 2010 Games.

The revision, which impacts 10 existing city bylaws, allows the city to remove illegal commercial signs immediately — regardless of whether the offender is a Games sponsor.

The bylaw isn't targeted at political activists. It instead aims to discourage companies who would profit from the Games by slapping up billboards or building wraps, which the city would be unable to remove until after a 30-day notice period.

"Someone could make a lot of money for advertising for five days during the Olympics because there is going to be such a big audience," said Coun. Geoff Meggs.

"We want to be sure that they know that they will not profit from their illegal activity, that we have the ability if we need to, to take it down."

Illegal marketing, he added, undermines sponsors who subsidize the Games and reduce the burden on taxpayers.

All other illegal signs (one put up without a permit and visible from the street), including political or anti-Games signage, will be subject to the city's original sign bylaw and would require one-month notice before it is removed.

The bylaw changes, with the exception of increasing the maximum fine to $10,000 under the fire bylaw, are temporary and limited geographically to areas surrounding venues and Olympic routes.

Revisions

- IN: The city will be allowed to go onto private property (but not into private residences) to remove graffiti. During the Games, the city will cover the cost of removal.
- OUT: Removed from the revised bylaws is a provision that would allow the city manager to create new rules during the Games.

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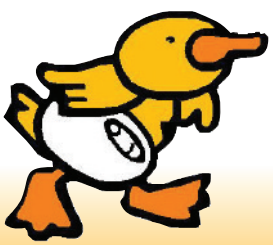
News in brief

PARALYMPIC RELAY VANOC will announce on Friday how Canadians can apply to be torchbearers for the 2010 Paralympic Torch Relay. The names of the first torchbearers will also be announced.

CHARGE A Victoria woman whose chinchilla starved to death has been charged with animal cruelty. Robyn Louise MacMillan was charged after two chinchillas and a cat were left without food and water for at least 17 days, say B.C. RCMP.

BORDER U.S. journalist Amy Goodman claims she was stopped at the border on Wednesday and questioned for 90 minutes by authorities concerned she was coming to speak against the Olympics, CBC News Online reports. She was travelling to promote her new book. METRO NEWS SERVICES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Lululemon rolls out girls' line of activewear

Lululemon is launching its Ivivva Athletica brand in Vancouver today. The brand targets girls aged six to 12. It'll also be launched in Victoria and Calgary in December. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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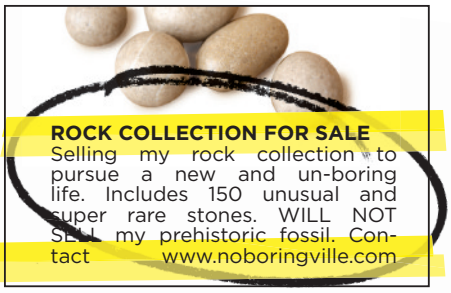

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Linden 'honoured'

Ex-Canucks captain readies to carry 2010 torch

JEFF HODSON
jeff.hodson@metronews.ca

JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER

Trevor Linden examines the Olympic torch at the Pacific Centre rotunda in Vancouver on Thursday.

Local hockey hero Trevor Linden jokes that he's been running through Kitsilano with a weight in one hand and his arm in the air to prepare for his turn as an Olympic torchbearer.

The former Canucks captain will carry the torch Feb. 11 in Coquitlam, one day before the Opening Ceremonies, as the relay winds through the Lower Mainland toward Vancouver.

"I've talked to a friend who just ran in Newfoundland with it and she said it was an incredibly moving experience, and I expect it will be no different," said Linden, who greeted fans and signed autographs inside the Pacific Centre rotunda Thursday.

"With the Opening Ceremonies held the next day, it's going to be an exciting time."

Linden, who represented Canada during the 1998 Olympics in Nagano, said one of his favourite memories was the camaraderie between Canadian athletes and getting to meet champions like Catriona Le May Doan.

"You're super honoured and excited. For a lot of players it was the first time that they'd ever been through something like that. The whole Olympic experience is unique and special."

Spinning fundraiser aims to give kids with cancer a week at camp

BETH CROWTHER
for Metro Vancouver

HEALTH A fundraiser this weekend is putting a new spin in the fight against childhood cancer.

Deb Rogers, whose five-year-old son was diagnosed with leukemia in April, is taking part this Sunday in Get On Your Bike!, a spin-relay fundraiser at the Steve Nash Sports Club in Vancouver.

"You can choose to sit in the corner and cry, or fight," said Rogers.

"We have chosen to fight. We fight this every day and we will always win."

As part of the fundraiser, participants form teams of 12 — Rogers' is named after her son, Aiden — and cycle for 12 hours to send children with cancer to Camp Goodtimes.

Team Aiden's goal is to raise $30,000. They found support in Lululemon stores throughout B.C., which are hosting in-store spin-a-thons on Sunday to help them raise funds.

Rogers said she believes the weeklong camp is important to kids like Aiden who are battling cancer.

"It's a time of normalcy, sharing and the chance to just be five," she said.

Wanna go?

- The Get On Your Bike! spin-relay, head-shave and silent auction takes place Sunday, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., at the Steve Nash Sports Club. Drop by or visit getonyourbike.ca to donate.

News in brief

POLITICS The B.C. NDP is looking to a Barack Obama strategist at this weekend's convention in Vancouver to help raise the party's popularity. Rahaf Harfoush, a Toronto new-media strategist who was at the centre of the successful Obama U.S. presidential campaign in 2008, is one of the speakers at the biannual B.C. NDP gathering. The event starts Friday at the Westin Bayshore Hotel and ends Sunday.

FIRST NATIONS A local First Nation says members will occupy a former residential school on Meares Island in an effort to "claim back" the property from a Catholic missionary order.

2010 Bridges Restaurant on Granville Island will be turned into the House of Switzerland during the 2010 Winter Olympics. It'll serve chocolate fondue and, of course, Swiss cheese along with other authentic dishes from the Western European country.

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women against violence against women

Women Against Violence Against Women Rape Crisis Centre (WAVAW) is seeking a Victim Service Worker who is committed to a Feminist Anti-Oppression approach to her work. Preference will be given to Aboriginal women and women of colour who also speak additional languages representative of the population of Vancouver. This is a permanent P/T position with full benefits.
Closing: Dec. 09/09. Email resume to: admin@wavaw.ca

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Browning, Boucher signing a cool opportunity for ice fans

Four-time figure skating world champion Kurt Browning and gold medal-winning speedskater Gaetan Boucher will meet fans and sign autographs at the main HBC branch in Vancouver on Saturday from 2 to 4 p.m. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Court grants Pickton an expanded appeal

The Supreme Court of Canada has opened the door to a wider appeal for serial killer Robert Pickton, expanding the chances of a new trial.

The court announced Thursday it will hear the expanded appeal, allowing Pickton's lawyers more legal grounds to argue that his six second-degree murder convictions should be overturned when the case is heard in March.

In a two-to-one decision last June, the B.C. Court of Appeal rejected a bid for a new trial. But the dissenting judge said because the trial judge didn't provide the jury with an instruction of aiding and abetting — and how it applied to the case — there was a miscarriage of justice.

But Pickton's lawyers asked the court to go beyond the dissenting reasons, and consider if the trial judge made mistakes in both instructing the jury and in not clarifying the meaning of a question the jury posed to the judge during deliberations. The jury had come back on the sixth day of deliberations and asked the judge about inferring that Pickton "acted indirectly" in killing one or more of the victims.

The Crown had insisted throughout the trial that Pickton acted alone and did so until the jury came back with the question.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Three topless women protest at legislature

ARTS Three topless female protesters have tested the limits of artistic freedom at a protest outside the B.C. legislature against government cuts to the arts.

The chanting women painted green, with messages such as The Naked Truth scribbled on their bodies, wore black tape and loin cloths. But their protest sparked a debate over artistic licence when organizers told them their costumes weren't approved legislature protest attire. The protest continued after the women joined a crowd of about 300 people calling on the Liberal government to restore cuts to arts funding.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Province fires two employees after info leak

SECURITY The B.C. government says two public servants have now been fired following a leak of the private information of 1,400 welfare recipients.

The NDP claims the first person sacked was a man and the second was his wife, but Citizen Services Minister Ben Stewart would not confirm that, saying it was a personnel issue.

The leak came to light after the personal information was found in the hands of a public servant under investigation by the RCMP's commercial crime unit and ICBC on an unrelated matter.

Inquiry

- The citizen services minister promised a full investigation and added the RCMP doesn't believe people's information was compromised.

The NDP says the information included birth dates, social insurance numbers, personal health numbers and other data.

On Thursday, the NDP once again demanded in the legislature to know why it took seven months to warn the people affected.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Arrest made in N.L. spending scandal

Police in Newfoundland and Labrador have arrested the owner of a company allegedly involved in the province's legislative spending scandal. In June 2006, the province's auditor general alleged that $2.7 million in public money was misappropriated. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

Saskatchewan to protect ponies

Saskatchewan has passed a law to protect wild ponies in the province's northwest. The law says that no person shall willfully molest, interfere with, hurt, capture or kill any of the ponies that live in the Bronson forest northeast of Lloydminster. Saskatchewan Party MLA Tim McMillan says the law should help protect the ponies from being wiped out. The herd has dwindled from 150 to less than 40 and nearby ranchers recently found "piles of dead animals." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Afghan governor investigated for alleged torture facility: Official

PRISONERS Canadian officials investigated claims that Kandahar's former governor was involved in torture but uncovered no evidence to prove it, a senior federal official said Thursday.

Claims that Asadullah Khalid was involved in abuse of prisoners was "widespread in Afghanistan," David Mulroney told a special House of Commons committee. The federal government asked officials at the Canadian-run provincial reconstruction base in Kandahar to investigate the allegations that the governor ran a series of torture chambers.

"We could not find any evidence that we could bring to the Afghan government about this," said Mulroney. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lindhout safely taken to Kenya

Freed after 15 tortuous months in captivity in Somalia, Canadian freelancer Amanda Lindhout and another foreign journalist arrived Thursday in neighbouring Kenya amid claims that a $700,000 ransom was paid for their release.

Lindhout and Australian photographer Nigel Brennan flew out of the Somali capital of Mogadishu in a chartered plane, said Somalia's National Security Minister Mohamed Abdullahi.

Canada's ambassador to Kenya said the pair was receiving medical care in the capital city of Nairobi.

"They are receiving the best possible care they can," Ross Hynes told The Associated Press. He declined to give more details.

Sarah Geddes, a spokesperson for Lindhout's family, said the journalists have been safely reunited with family members already in Nairobi.

Amanda Lindhout

"Amanda's parents are overjoyed and request continued privacy for the family while they focus on Amanda and her transition back to normal life," the spokesperson said.

"They will return to Canada as soon as Amanda is fit to fly home."

In a statement from Ottawa, Prime Minister Stephen Harper acknowledged Lindhout's release, which he described as a great relief to all Canadians.

"Ms. Lindhout has been through an extremely difficult time; we are thankful that she will soon be reunited with her family and friends," Harper said. "

A Somali police officer and a legislator, both speaking late Wednesday on condition of anonymity, said a $700,000 ransom was paid. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tory bill targets prisoner transfers

SENTENCE The Harper government introduced legislation Thursday to make it tougher for Canadians imprisoned abroad to serve out their sentences in Canada.

The bill would expand the conditions prisoners must meet before being allowed to obtain transfers to Canadian jails.

"Right now, the law emphasizes the interests of the criminal," Public Safety Minister Peter Van Loan said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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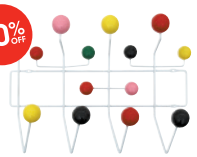
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Stem cell study may aid preemies

An international team headed by a University of Alberta researcher has used stem cells to heal and protect the lungs of newborn rats — research that could help premature babies with chronic lung disease.

Dr. Bernard Thebaud's team injected stem cells from bone marrow into the rats' airways. Two weeks later the rodents were running twice as far on treadmills and had better survival rates.

The stem cells acted like tiny damage-control factories, pumping out a healing liquid that scientists are working to understand.

"That healing liquid seems to boost the power of healthy lung cells and helps them to repair the lungs," said Thebaud, who is also a specialist at Edmonton's Stollery Children's Hospital neonatal intensive care unit.

"The human implication is that we envision a stem cell-based treatment for these babies that suffer from chronic lung disease."

Babies who are born extremely prematurely can't breathe on their own and need help for their lungs to develop properly. About half of babies born before 28 weeks get chronic lung disease, a condition that can affect lung capacity as they grow up.

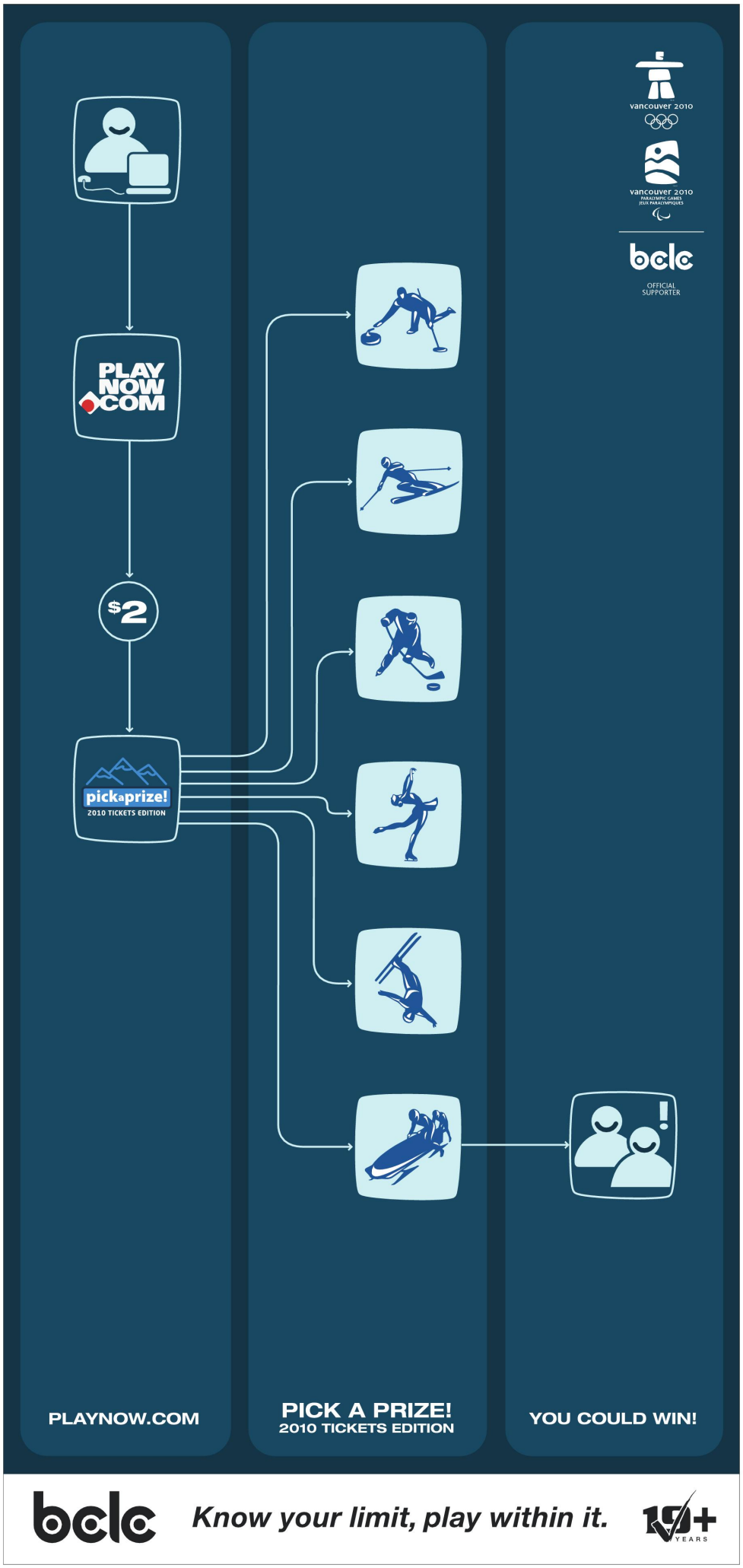
Thebaud and his team's findings are to be published Dec. 1 in the American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine.

Stem cells can develop into different cell types in the body. They can act as an internal repair system, dividing to replenish other cells. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ontario won't release contract of prosecutor

COURT The Ontario government is refusing to release the contract of a special prosecutor hired to handle criminal charges against former attorney general Michael Bryant, saying the contract is related to the prosecution and cannot be made public.

Richard Peck is a veteran Vancouver lawyer who has been retained to prosecute Bryant, who was charged with criminal negligence causing death and dangerous driving causing death following an altercation with a cyclist on Aug. 31 in Toronto. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Lobster fishing adapting to protect whales

MARINE LIFE One of the world's most endangered marine mammals is getting some help from a small group of Atlantic Canadian fishermen who are trying to reduce a major threat to the animals by controlling the amount of lethal fishing line in the water.

Lobster fishermen on the East Coast are altering the way they set lobster traps and will steer clear of rare North Atlantic right whales as they pass through the Bay of Fundy in a bid to cut the number of times they get snarled in fishing line.

Starting Monday when the lobster season opens in parts of the Bay of Fundy, hundreds of lobster harvesters will be asked to set their groundlines on the ocean floor to limit floating ropes and protect the whales against one of their two main killers.

Hubert Saulnier, a veteran fisherman in the Bay of Fundy, where many of the massive mammals go to feed in the summer, said the initiative should reduce the amount of fishing line that floats above the ocean floor and ensnares the whales.

Lines that link the lobster traps on the ocean bottom can be slack and close together, creating something like a noose that can wrap around the whales as they travel to and from waters off Florida.

Fishermen in two of the bay's fishing areas have agreed to make the lines tighter and longer to try to keep them resting on the ground.

The population of right whales has dwindled to only 400 since they were hunted to near extinction in the 1700s. THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

DOCTORS A new report shows that the number of practising doctors in Canada has increased over the last five years, and the rate of increase is greater than the rate of population growth. The Canadian Institute for Health Information report says there were 65,440 active physicians in Canada in 2008, up eight per cent from 2004. The Canadian population grew by 4.3 per cent.

EMISSIONS Canada must create a cap-and-trade system that's compatible with the U.S. plan to reduce greenhouse gases — even if no U.S. system actually exists, Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff said Thursday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cuba begins military exercises

Cuba's armed forces launched three days of intense military exercises across the island Thursday, a mobilization that state-controlled media says is designed to guard against an American invasion. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

Rice brought up Iraq on 9-11: Ambassador

Former U.S. secretary of state Condoleezza Rice raised the issue of Iraq with the United Kingdom hours after the Sept. 11 attacks, Britain's former ambassador told an inquiry into the Iraq war Thursday. Christopher Meyer said he spoke with Rice on Sept. 11, 2001. At the time, she was still President George W. Bush's national security adviser. "She said there's no doubt this was an al-Qaida operation, we are just looking to see if there could possibly be any connection with Saddam Hussein," Meyer told the panel. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Revelations rock Ireland

Report says church covered up decades of child abuse

Bishops of the Roman Catholic Church in Ireland covered up decades of child abuse by priests in order to protect the church's reputation, an expert commission reported Thursday after a three-year investigation.

Abuse victims welcomed the commission's report on the Dublin Archdiocese's mishandling of child-abuse cases — one of several government investigations into chronic child rape, beatings and other cruelty in Catholic-run schools, children's workhouses and orphanages from 1975 to 2004. The government said the investigation "shows clearly that a systemic, calculated perversion of power and trust was visited on helpless and innocent children in the archdiocese."

"The perpetrators must continue to be brought to justice, and the people of Ireland must know that this can never happen again," the government said, also apologizing for the state's failure to hold church authorities accountable to the law.

This is the second major government-ordered report this year exploring why authorities permitted widespread abuse of boys and girls at the hands of the Catholic Church throughout most of the 20th century, the gravest scandal in the history of independent Ireland. The 720-page report — delivered to the government in July but released Thursday — analyzes the cases of 46 priests against whom 320 complaints were filed.

The 46 were selected from more than 150 Dublin priests implicated in molesting or raping boys and girls since 1940. Eleven priests convicted of child abuse are named in the report, but 33 are referred to by aliases and two have their names blacked out because they have yet to face justice. The report rejected past bishops' key claim that they were ignorant of both the scale and criminality of priests' abuse of children, showing that the Dublin Archdiocese negotiated a 1987 insurance policy for future legal costs of defending lawsuits and compensation claims.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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New York Book honours pioneer

TINA FINEBERG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Claudette Colvin, who refused to be treated like a substandard citizen on an Alabama bus — nine months before civil-rights pioneer Rosa Parks — stands on Wednesday in New York with Phillip Hoose, winner of the 2009 National Book Award for Young People's Literature for his book about Colvin's life.

Australia to shoot dead 6,000 camels

OUTBACK Australian authorities plan to corral about 6,000 wild camels with helicopters and gun them down after they overran a small Outback town in search of water, trampling fences, smashing tanks and contaminating supplies.

The Northern Territory government announced its plan Wednesday for Docker River, a town of 350 residents where thirsty camels have been arriving daily for weeks because of drought conditions in the region.

"The community of Docker River is under siege by 6,000 marauding, wild camels," local government minister Rob Knight said in Alice Springs, 500 kilometres northeast of Docker.

"This is a very critical situation out there, it's very unusual and it needs urgent action."

The carcasses of camels killed in stampedes are contaminating the water supply, he added. The government plans to use helicopters to herd the camels some 15 kilometres outside of town next week, where they will be shot and their carcasses left to decay in the desert.

Camels were first brought to Australia to help explorers travel through the desert, and now an estimated one million roam wild across the country.

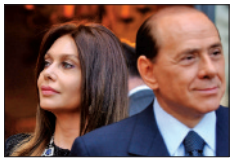
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Barbaric?

- Glenys Oogjes, executive director of national advocacy group Animals Australia, said the plan to kill the camels was barbaric.

Berlusconi divorce gets down to hard cash

ITALY Premier Silvio Berlusconi's estranged wife is seeking $65 million US a year in alimony in a divorce case she launched after her husband was embroiled in a sex scandal, a bid that was immediately rejected by the billionaire media mogul, an Italian newspaper reported Thursday.



Veronica Lario and Silvio Berlusconi

Veronica Lario's lawyer, Maria Cristina Morelli, declined to comment on the report in Corriere della Sera. The newspaper, citing what it said were "informed sources," said Berlusconi, Italy's second-richest man, made a counteroffer of $300,000 monthly, and indicated willingness to go up to $400,000 monthly.

Berlusconi, 73, is listed by Forbes magazine as the 70th richest person in the world, worth $6.5 billion.

Lario, a 52-year-old former actress, said earlier this year she was fed up with Berlusconi's infatuation with young women and was seeking divorce.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mayor turns self in, denies murders

PHILIPPINES Under threat of military attack, the leader of the clan suspected in the slaughter of 57 people in the southern Philippines turned himself in Thursday, and prosecutors say he will face murder charges in the country's worst election violence ever. Andal Ampatuan Jr., a town mayor, maintains he had nothing to do with the ambush of a convoy carrying his political rival's family, supporters and at least 22 journalists. Their bodies — mowed down by point-blank shots and some hacked up — were found in mass graves hastily dug by a backhoe. Some were buried with their vehicles. Asked by reporters if he was involved in the killings, Ampatuan replied: "There is no truth to that."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Iran confiscates Nobel medal

NORWAY Iranian authorities have confiscated Nobel Peace laureate Shirin Ebadi's medal, her lawyer and Norway's government said Thursday, in a sign of the increasingly drastic steps they are taking against any dissent. In Norway, where the peace prize is awarded, the government said the confiscation was a shocking first in the history of the 108-year-old prize.

Ebadi, a human-rights lawyer, won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2003 for her efforts in promoting democracy. She has long faced harassment from Iranian authorities for her activities.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

ELECTIONS Haiti's electoral council has banned the influential party of exiled former president Jean-Bertrand Aristide from running in next year's legislative elections. Fanmi Lavalas is among the 17 parties barred from February's elections because it submitted improper documents.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Iran charges scholar with espionage
Iran brought new espionage charges against an Iranian-American scholar who was already convicted of spying and sentenced to 15 years in prison following June's disputed presidential election. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Zelaya dealt another blow

The Honduran Supreme Court recommended Thursday that lawmakers vote against restoring ousted President Manuel Zelaya, another blow for his quickly fading chances of returning to power.

The Supreme Court submitted its opinion six days before Congress is scheduled to vote on Zelaya's fate as part of a U.S.-brokered agreement to end the political crisis over a June coup.

The justices concluded that Zelaya should not be restored to the presidency because he has criminal charges pending against him, Supreme Court spokesman Danilo Izaguirre said.

"While he faces judicial charges, he cannot return to power," Izaguirre said.

Zelaya, who has been holed up in the Brazilian Embassy since sneaking back into the country from his forced exile Sept. 21, has declared the U.S.-backed pact a failure, arguing Congress is violating the spirit of the agreement by waiting until after presidential elections Sunday to decide his future.

The agreement called for the formation of a unity government but left the decision on restoring Zelaya up to Congress, which was given the option of consulting the Supreme Court and other institutions.

The Supreme Court justices had initially deemed Zelaya's ouster legal because he violated court orders to cancel a referendum on rewriting the constitution.

Opponents say Zelaya wanted to lift a ban on presidential re-election; Zelaya denies that was his goal.

Soldiers arrested Zelaya and whisked him out the country at gunpoint on June 28. Hours later, Congress voted to back his ouster.

Western Hemisphere countries, once united in condemning the coup, are divided on whether to recognize the elections, which had been scheduled before Zelaya's ouster.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pakistan **All aboard**

K.M. CHAUDARY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

People ride on an overcrowded train to reach their villages ahead of Eid al-Adha in Lahore Thursday. Eid al-Adha, or the Feast of the Sacrifice, is celebrated to commemorate the prophet Ibrahim's faith in being willing to sacrifice his son.

Questions persist over brain-damaged man's abilities

BELGIUM Rom Houben's mother remembers her son's amazement when he finally started communicating again after spending 23 years locked in a paralyzed body that was misdiagnosed as vegetative.

"Early on, he was surprised that the words came out of his finger," Fina Nicolaes said. "Now, he is busy writing a book."

However, his communication, with the help of a speech therapist holding his hand punching a touch screen, is stirring controversy only days after the story of his comeback as a fully conscious man entombed in an immobile body captured the world's imagination.

It has scholars questioning the technique of facilitated communication, bloggers denouncing it as a cruel farce, and millions asking as they watch the video of Houben's hand being held as it quickly types into the screen — who is really doing the punching here?

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Communication

- Doctors point out that it has been three years since Houben was discovered to be conscious and he has had much time to improve his communication skills.

Iran nuclear probe at 'dead end'

VIENNA The outgoing head of the International Atomic Energy Agency said Thursday his probe of Iran's nuclear program is at "a dead end" and that trust in Tehran's credibility is shrinking after its belated revelation that it was secretly building a nuclear facility.

Mohamed ElBaradei's blunt criticism of the Islamic Republic was notable in representing a broad convergence with U.S. opinion, which for years was critical of the IAEA chief for what it perceived as his softness on Iran. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

U.K. The British government said Thursday it will not prevent extradition of a hacker accused of breaking into U.S. military computers. Gary McKinnon's lawyers have argued that he has a form of autism and is at risk of suicide if extradited. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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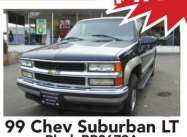

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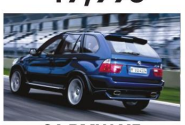

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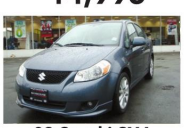

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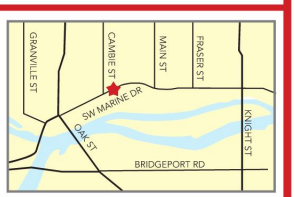

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Comment

Weathering a storm of statistics

UrbanCompass

My wife accuses me of being a weather wonk. I'm not sure where she gets that idea.

Yes, the Weather Channel is usually on when I'm in front of the TV, but let's not forget that I'm asleep at the time. I find the music soothing, like elevator music from the sky.

Still, weather does have its allure, and it turns out I'm not the only one. A survey released this week shows 76 per cent of Canadians check the local weather report at least once a day, and at least one in three pay more attention to the weather reporter than the boss.

Two in 10 pay more attention to the local weather report than their spouse.

Who thinks up these surveys anyway? My wife?

Kidding aside, I find our weather fascinating. Maybe it's because I was born (like half the population of Vancouver) in Winnipeg. And I've traded Canada's 10th coldest winter for its 99th. Believe it or not, Winnipeg's winter is colder than Whitehorse's, which makes it a good place to be from.

Vancouver is not even the rainiest city in Canada, although it is ninth, behind legendary swamps like St. John's and Halifax, and — surprise — Abbotsford. The next time you criticize the twinning of the Port Mann Bridge, spare a thought for the poor commuters of Abbotsford. It takes two hours to get home, and they're heading to the fourth rainiest city in the country. I guess it could be worse; they could be heading a few more exits down the Trans Canada to No. 3, Chilliwack.

Most people think Victoria is warmer than Vancouver and it does have Canada's mildest winter; Vancouver is fourth, with Nanaimo and Duncan second and third, respectively. However, Vancouver is second warmest overall, topped only by Chilliwack, all wet and warm.

Had enough? I could go on, but people usually start nodding off at this point. Can't understand it. If you hunger for more, fellow misunderstood weather enthusiast, have I got a website for you! Check out Environment Canada's Weather Winners. David Phillips, senior climatologist and my hero, has put all the data for Canada's 100 largest cities into the climate cauldron and has come up with the ultimate weapon for winning pointless arguments with the folks back east.

And what else have you got to do on these long November nights?

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting; vancouverletters@metronews.ca.

Views

Radicalism and racism: Polarities to avoid

InStep

With news of the Fort Hood rampage in Texas and the revamped Canadian citizenship guide warning newcomers that "barbaric cultural practices" will not be tolerated, conflicting debates about terrorism and our expectations in the West are once again active and will continue to be until we collectively confront the two menacing forces of radicalism and racism.

Both of these variables are alive and well and should invoke a deep horror. Yet those who persistently deny the reality of any one of these insidious evils do so to the peril of our society as a whole.

So let's start with racism. Labelling and stigmatizing people lead to deep divisions within a society and facilitate a hostile environment, not conducive to the positive growth of an increasingly diverse civilization. Many Muslims have been on the receiving end of stigmatization. We need to be clear that the vast majority of Muslims in the West are peace loving.

So we need to think twice before exercising discrimination on all people of the Muslim faith.

It is only those Muslims who embrace a militant and extreme ideology rooted in Salafism that we need to be concerned about. Salafism is often used interchangeably with Wahabbism and in its most extreme form, calls for jihad by the sword against all perceived enemies of Islam — particularly the West — and includes the subjugation of women, sometimes brutal.

We can't afford to import this irrational zeal, which is accepted and encouraged in many parts of the world. We have every right to challenge such ideologies.

It is time for us to make clear distinctions between peace-loving Muslims from those who are radicals. Suppressing open discussion and dialogue only serves to drive the evils of racism and radicalism underground where both can flourish to the detriment of all us all.

Christine Williams is the producer and host of the live current affairs daily talk show On the Line at CTS TV in Burlington, Ont.

MICHAEL DE ADDER

Tell us your views by email to vancouverletters@metronews.ca or comment on metronews.ca or on Twitter @vancouvermetro

Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number – street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.

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Licence granted to Al Jazeera in Canada
Al Jazeera's English-language news network will be coming soon to the cable and satellite dial. The broadcast regulator has approved the Qatar-based network's application for a Canadian licence. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Business

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EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Dealers sue GM Canada

A group of dealers is suing General Motors of Canada for millions of dollars in damages for alleged contract breaches and are seeking a court injunction to stop the auto giant from terminating their franchises.

Eleven longtime southern Ontario dealers and one from Prince Edward Island filed a statement of claim in Ontario court Thursday.

250 GM announced in May that it would close between 240 and 250 dealerships by October 2010 when franchise agreements expire.

The dealers say they want a permanent injunction to prohibit GM from ending their agreements and a declaration entitling them to remain open for at least five years.

Their claim is seeking unidentified compensatory damages for loss of profit, goodwill, reputation, market share and business opportunities because of the alleged breaches, plus $1.5 million in punitive damages for each dealer.

More than 200 dealers have accepted wind-down agreements and already closed their GM stores.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Rogers Communications to cut 900 jobs across country

Rogers Communications Inc. says it's laying off about 900 employees across Canada, mostly in executive and management positions, in an effort to streamline operations as it grapples with intensifying competition.

A spokeswoman for the telecommunications and media giant didn't give a precise figure for the number of people affected, but said the layoffs represent three per cent of the company's total workforce of 30,000 across the country.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business in brief

CONFIDENCE Canadian consumers are feeling less confident in economic recovery and their job security. A monthly survey by the Conference Board of Canada shows consumer confidence fell in November, the second month in a row. Major worries were job security and personal finances. Just 13.9 per cent of respondents answered positively about their current finances, down one point from October. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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SCANLIFE

After doing things the Western way, it may be 'back to basics' for Dubai. Scan this barcode for the full article.
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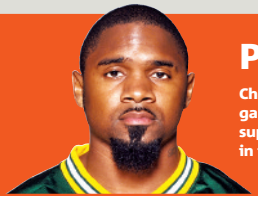
Who to play at Super Bowl

The Who will perform at halftime of the Super Bowl this season. The NFL announced during Thursday's game between the Oakland Raiders and Dallas Cowboys that the longtime rock band will play Feb. 7 at Dolphin Stadium in Miami. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports



Packers star donates $2M

Charles Woodson is donating $2 million US to the new University of Michigan Mott Children's Hospital and Women's Hospital. The money will support pediatric research by The Charles Woodson Clinical Research Fund in the $754-million hospital, scheduled to open in 2012. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

Henrik's hot streak continues against Kings

NHL

Kings 1 Canucks 4

AT

Henrik Sedin continued his torrid pace Thursday, scoring the winning goal as the Vancouver Canucks defeated the Los Angeles Kings 4-1 for their third win in four games.

Sedin gave Vancouver the lead by winning a face-off in the Kings' zone early in the third period. The puck came back to Alex Edler, whose point shot was too hot to control for goalie Jonathan Quick.

Sedin was in perfect position for the rebound and scored his seventh goal in eight games to snap a 1-1 tie.

The goal came after Wayne Simmonds beat Vancouver netminder Roberto Luongo, who finished with 31 saves, in the final minute of the second period.

Tanner Glass provided insurance 3:24 after the go-ahead goal when he deflected Steve Bernier's shot on net then scored on the rebound.

Kyle Wellwood, who hit the post in the final minute, got an empty-net goal, his first of the season, to complete the scoring. The goal drew the loudest reaction from the crowd of 18,818 at GM Place.

Alex Burrows ended a six-game slump by giving Vancouver a 1-0 first-period lead.

The Canucks, getting healthier after losing more than 100 man-games to injuries, improved to 13-11-0 and moved closer to a playoff position in the Western Conference.

Los Angeles slipped to 14-10-2 with their third loss in four games.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Vancouver Canuck Alex Burrow scores against the Los Angeles Kings on Thursday night.

MVUAS
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The Metro Vancouver Urban Aboriginal Strategy (MVUAS) invites you to join us at two local community forums:

MVUAS Youth Forum
December 5, 2009
at the Native Education College
(285 East 5th Ave, Vancouver, BC - from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.)
Admission is free and all Aboriginal Youth are welcome

MVUAS Vancouver Community Forum
January 9, 2010
at the Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre
(1607 East Hastings Street, Vancouver, BC - from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.)
Admission is free and everyone is welcome

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THURSDAY'S RESULTS
Dallas 24 Oakland 7
Green Bay 34 Detroit 12
Denver 26 N.Y. Giants 6

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Sosa sued by businessman

Sammy Sosa is being sued by a businessman in the Dominican Republic who says the former major leaguer owes him for commission on a house sale. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

sports 17

Team effort makes Grey Cup magical

The vast majority of those millions who will tune in to watch the 97th Grey Cup on TV won't know a single player's name on either team prior to the kickoff. But that's not the point. Sure, Anthony Calvillo of the Alouettes has been a stalwart CFL quarterback for many seasons and his Roughrider counterpart Darian Durant has emerged as a bona fide star to deliver Saskatchewan to the cusp of gridiron glory yet again.

However, neither of these personalities, nor any of those who will take the field at Calgary's McMahon Stadium can come close to eclipsing the magnetism of their respective squads.

It's what makes the Grey Cup different and gives it heightened drama.

The team is paramount and the success of the November spectacle will rest upon a tale woven by helmeted representatives of vastly different communities that co-exist in a big country.

The Roughriders are the perennial long shots.

They are football's version of a Prairie David to the Goliaths of Eastern Canada. The club from Saskatchewan is publicly owned and its many investors have much more than an imaginary stake in the outcome of every match.

Then again, the role of underdog charmingly adds to their mystique.

Meanwhile, Montreal's football team draws its nickname from a bird in Quebecois folklore.

The Alouettes, like the mythical Phoenix, have risen from the ashes to ward off extinction and make the CFL strong again in French-speaking Canada. Along with an agonizing absence from 1987-96 and a subsequent rise to power, the Als hatched a huge interest in collegiate and community football in the province. They have repaid their followers with consistent competitiveness.

So who to root for? Perhaps the answer is both teams. After all, that's the lure of the Grey Cup isn't it? It's all about a game, which has the ability to soar above rudimentary statistical analysis and a handful of star players who play for multimillion-dollar contracts.

The magic to be found in the Grey Cup has to do with valiant teams and the contribution they make to this country's fabled, football history.

Scott Russell is the Host of CBC Sports Weekend seen Saturday afternoons. He has covered professional and amateur sports including nine Olympic games and numerous world championships.

Riders offence in Canadian hands

GREY CUP PREVIEW

Roughriders vs Alouettes

In order to beat the Montreal Alouettes in Sunday's Grey Cup, the Saskatchewan Roughriders will have to get continued offensive production from their talented receiving corps.

Dubbed the "Canadian Air Force," receivers Andy Fantuz, Chris Getzlaf and Rob Bagg all hauled in touchdown catches as the Riders qualified for the CFL final by downing the Calgary Stampeders 27-17 in Regina last Sunday.

Chris Getzlaf

"It wasn't a surprise to us," Bagg said about the trio's production in the West final. "It would have been more disappointing if we hadn't performed."

With the Alouettes hungry to erase last season's Grey Cup loss to the Stamps at home in Montreal, Bagg said the Riders will have to be at their best to emerge with a victory.

"They're obviously a veteran group that's incredibly talented and experienced," said the 24-year-old, who hails from Kingston. "We're going to have to play our best game, but I think we'll be able to do that and it's going to be an exciting one."

Getzlaf, who led the Riders with six receiving touchdowns in the regular season, gave a lot of credit to Saskatchewan quarterback Darian Durant for being able to hit open receivers with precise passes on a consistent basis.

"Darian does a great job of reading defences and finding who's open and we're able to create mismatches wherever need be and he's able to pick teams apart," said the 26-year-old Regina native. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sports in brief

FUNERAL Basketball star Shaquille O'Neal paid for the funeral of a five-year-old North Carolina girl after being moved by national news coverage of the case of Shaniya Davis, who police say was kidnapped and killed.

NFL The Pittsburgh Steelers have met with experienced quarterbacks Patrick Ramsey and Todd Bouman, a sign that injured backup Charlie Batch might be out longer than the team first expected. Batch broke his left wrist in Kansas City on Sunday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Men's world curling championships back in Regina

The Ford world men's curling championship will return to Regina in 2011, marking the third time the city has hosted the event. The championship will be held April 2-10, 2011, at Evraz Place. THE CANADIAN PRESS

'Leap of faith' on B.C. native pays off for Als

GREY CUP PREVIEW

Roughriders vs Alouettes

A feel-good story of Grey Cup week is the Saskatchewan Roughriders' use of four Canadian receivers, but the Montreal Alouettes have a ratio-changer of their own in linebacker Shea Emry.

The 23-year-old from Richmond, B.C., played almost exclusively on special teams as a rookie last season, but hard work in the off-season and a strong training camp won him the job of starting middle linebacker.

The six-foot, 235-pounder will be in that spot when the Alouettes face the Roughriders in the Grey Cup game Sunday.

"The coaches kind of took a leap of faith in giving me the job right out of camp and I jumped at the opportunity and did my best," Emry said Thursday.

"... I just wanted to make sure my teammates respected me for my game. Once I started making a couple of plays, that's all I wanted to do. And gradually I got better and better."

The Alouettes wanted to be bigger and have better man-to-man coverage from their defence this season and part of that was to change the group of linebackers.

"Gradually I got better and better."
Shea Emry

Only Diamond Ferri stayed put, while Emry moved into the middle and Chip Cox moved to linebacker from defensive back, with rookie Ramon Guzman substituting during games.

They contributed to a defence that was best in the league this season, leading in 21 of the 25 defensive statistical categories the CFL keeps.

Its 324 points allowed was 104 fewer than the next-best team, Hamilton, and it gave up nearly 400 fewer rushing yards than any other club.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Calvillo gets outstanding player award

FOOTBALL Montreal Alouettes quarterback Anthony Calvillo is the CFL's outstanding player for the second straight year.

Calvillo received the award for the third time in his 16-year career Thursday at the CFL's awards banquet.

Calvillo, 37, enjoyed a banner '09 season, completing a stellar 72 per cent of his passes in helping lead Montreal to a CFL-best 15-3 record. His passing completion average was the best he's enjoyed since coming north of the border in 1994 with the expansion Las Vegas Posse.

Calvillo was one of three Alouettes to receive awards as Scott Flory was named top lineman and kick-returner Larry Taylor captured special-teams honours. Defensive end Anwar Stewart and slotback Ben Cahoon were finalists as top defensive player and top Canadian, respectively.

The other award winners included Saskatchewan Roughriders defensive end John Chick (defensive player), and defensive end Ricky Foley (Canadian) and tailback Martell Mallett (rookie) of the B.C. Lions.

Wally Buono, the B.C. Lions head coach and GM, received the commissioner's award for outstanding contribution to Canadian football. Buono completed his 20th season as a CFL head coach, becoming the winningest coach in league history (235 wins). Buono, 59, also was a linebacker-punter with the Alouettes from 1973 to '82 before becoming an assistant coach with the club in '83. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Del Potro beats Federer to reach semis at ATP finals

TENNIS Juan Martin del Potro squeaked into the semifinals of the ATP World Tour Finals by beating Roger Federer 6-2, 6-7 (5), 6-3 Thursday — the slimmest possible margin to advance and knock Andy Murray out of the tournament.

That result means Del Potro and Federer both advance after a three-way tie in Group A. All three players finished the round-robin stage with two wins and identical 5-4 set records. However, Murray was eliminated after winning the lowest percentage of games. Had Del Potro lost just one more game against Federer, Murray would have advanced at the Argentine's expense.

Murray beat Fernando Verdasco 6-4, 6-7 (4), 7-6 (3) earlier Thursday.

Federer would have been eliminated with a straight-set loss and looked in serious trouble against the U.S. Open champion. He trailed 5-4 in the second-set tiebreaker with Del Potro on serve, but the Argentine netted a simple forehand that would have set up two match points.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nestor ends season with win

- Canadian Daniel Nestor and Serbian partner Nenad Zimonjic closed out a successful season with a 6-4, 7-6 (9) group-play win Thursday over India's Mahesh Bhupathi and Mark Knowles of the Bahamas at the ATP World Tour Finals.

Another Thanksgiving, another loss for Detroit

NFL

Packers 34 Lions 12

Aaron Rodgers matched a career high with three touchdown passes and Green Bay beat the Detroit Lions 34-12 on Thursday, giving the Packers three straight wins and improving their playoff prospects.

The Lions lost their sixth straight game on Thanksgiving, setting a franchise record, and had an emotional setback after their biggest comeback win since 1957.

Matthew Stafford, playing with a sore non-throwing shoulder, threw one touchdown pass and four interceptions in a rookie-like performance, after passing for five scores in Sunday's win over Cleveland. Detroit trailed the Browns by 21 before coming all the way back.

The Lions (2-9) looked as if they were building off that momentum by recovering a fumble on the opening kickoff and with Stafford's TD pass to Calvin Johnson. But the Packers (7-4) scored 27 unanswered points in the second and third quarter to turn the game into a familiar rout.

Cowboys 24 Raiders 7

At Arlington, Texas, Tony Romo snapped the Dallas Cowboys from their offensive slumber by leading them to a season-high 494 yards, with Miles Austin delivering 145 yards and a touchdown.

Broncos 26 Giants 6

At Denver, Kyle Orton drove the Broncos on six scoring drives, Matt Prater kicked four field goals and safety Brian Dawkins led a ferocious defence 48 hours after calling a players-only meeting, and Denver beat the Giants.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Visit metronews.ca/movies to get showtimes, watch trailers and read reviews.

Movies&Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Movies

Post-apocalyptic Pg 20

Viggo Mortesen stars in Cormac McCarthy's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel-turned-movie The Road, about a man wandering across America with his young son in search of food, shelter and a trace of hope in a post-apocalyptic world.

Movies Pg 23

Family is torn apart by post-traumatic stress in Brothers

Music Pg 25

Adam Lambert discusses the controversy surrounding him

Television Pg 26

Nico Archembault channels dancer Nureyev in biopic

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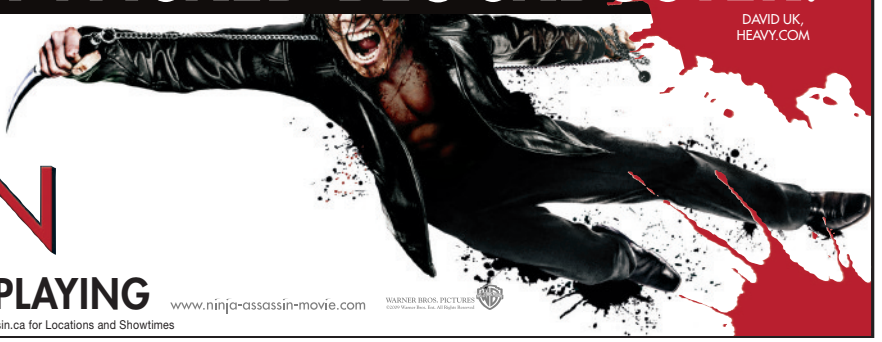

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At a glance
The Road ⊕⊕⊕, New York, I Love You ⊕⊕, Precious ⊕½, The Boys: The Sherman Brothers Story ⊕⊕⊕½

Movies

MOVIES EDITOR: KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

⊕⊕⊕⊕⊕ A CLASSIC; ⊕⊕⊕⊕ EXCELLENT; ⊕⊕⊕ GOOD; ⊕⊕ FAIR; ⊕ POOR

Movies in brief

AWARDS An Australia-based director's romance, a Taiwanese family drama and the story of a Chinese peasant guarding a cow are the unlikely trio of top contenders at the Chinese-language equivalent of the Oscars to be announced Saturday. Clara Law's Like a Dream bagged nine nominations, Leon Dai's No Pudeo Vivir Sin Ti had eight and Guan Hu's Cow seven at the Golden Horse Awards.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Viggo Mortensen plays a father wandering around a post-apocalyptic America in The Road.

The Road heavy ride

The Road
Director: John Hillcoat
Stars: Viggo Mortensen
Classification: STC
Rating: ⊕⊕⊕

On the web
• For movie photos, trailers and screen times — or to buy tickets — visit metronews.ca/movies.

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

There's a proverb that reads: To know the road ahead, ask those coming back.

But what if the few that are travelling said passageway are only thieves and cannibals? That is the primarily the predicament that a pair of post-apocalypse survivors face in The Road.

For those uneducated in Cormac McCarthy's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel-turned-movie, The Road is a kind of a zombie movie without the zombies: A man (Oscar-nominee Viggo Mortensen) wanders across America with his young son (Kodi Smit-McPhee) in search of food, shelter and a trace of hope in an otherwise bleak, desolate world.

As the pair travel by foot across a deserted interstate highway heading the unknown west for wishful repose, they discover faith only in each other while stumbling across occasional survivors that display the precarious virtue of humanity.

As with McCarthy's novel, there's no clear explanation as to what happened to the modern world.

Suffice it to say that Earth is now a destroyed wasteland — twisted metal litters the streets, forests have fallen and the sky is painted an oppressive smoky grey. For this reason, hiring director John Hillcoat (The Proposition) was a clever choice. When it comes to setting tone, Hillcoat is the Nick Drake of cinematography.

But while he defiantly captures the dystopian look and feel, the Australian auteur still struggles with transposing the acclaimed novel into its cinematic counterpart.

While Mortensen is captivating even with a sparse amount of dialogue and action, the rambling structure of the film will lack the pacing needed to deliver enough thrills for most fidgety filmgoers.

Drive with caution, The Road ahead is a heavy ride.

Precious sucker-punch film

Precious: Based on the novel Push by Sapphire
Director: Lee Daniels
Stars: Gabourney Sidibe, Mo'Nique
Classification: STC
Rating: ⊕½

ADAM NAYMAN
for Metro Canada

REVIEW An Audience Award winner at this year's Toronto International Film Festival, Precious rolls back into town with the hype machine at full blast. At this point, a Best Picture nomination looks like a fait accompli.

Which doesn't mean that the film, a fact-based account of Job-like misery as experienced by a teenage girl in late 80s Harlem, is a worthy piece of work.

Precious comes advertised with adjectives like "harrowing," and it is, but the discomfort mostly stems from director Lee Daniels' willingness — and even eagerness — to revel in grotesque urban-nightmare imagery. Over the course of the film, 16-year old Precious (Gabby Sidibe), who has already born two children by her own father, is subjected to an unending stream of verbal and physical abuse, most of it stemming from her ornery, shut-in mother (Mo'Nique).

After enrolling in a special education class presided over by a pretty, supportive young teacher (Paula Patton), Precious feels her first stirrings of hope — which is the film's cue to cut her back down with extreme prejudice.

The film's defenders claim that Daniels is merely displaying fidelity to his source material, but there's a line between empathy and exploitation, and Precious trips all over it.

Daniels' direction is pure sucker-punch cinema, a one-two combination of shock tactics and sanctimonious uplift.

Alba goes Belgian
After headlining Sin City and The Fantastic Four, Alba's just signed for The Insiders, the big-screen version of another comic series — this time one from, er, Belgium. IMDB.COM

New York doesn't succeed like Paris

New York, I Love You

Director: Brett Ratner, Joshua Marston, Mira Nair and others
Stars: Ethan Hawke, Natalie Portman, Julie Christie
Classification: STC
Rating: ⊕⊕

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada

Drea de Matteo stars in a segment of New York, I Love You.

REVIEW In 2006, filmgoers were charmed by Paris Je T'aime, an anthology film comprised of short love letters to Paris by 21 different filmmakers.
The project was surprisingly consistent for a film of it's kind and proved to be a minor hit.

Three years later, a few producers have tried to repeat the trick with New York, I Love You.

The plan was to apply the same format to New York and it should have worked. But, unfortunately the roster of filmmakers hired for this omnibus is not nearly as impressive as the previous lineup.

There are a few nice shorts, but overall the film is quite bland and predictable.

Hollywood hack Brett Ratner (Rush Hour) surprisingly directed the funniest segment about a teenager who inadvertently takes James Caan's disabled daughter to his prom. Maria Full Of Grace director Joshua Marston also contributed an amazing segment featuring Cloris Leachman and Eli Wallach as a sweetly co-dependent bickering old couple. But sadly, the other shorts fall flat. While Paris Je T'aime succeeded on the strength of the directors, New York, I Love You succeeds mainly because of its all star cast that includes Ethan Hawke, John Hurt, Natalie Portman, Julie Christie, and others.

Anthology movies are always inconsistent.

There has never been a perfect one made, so judging them depends entirely on the number of hits vs. the number of misses and New York, I Love You fails more than it succeeds.

Brothers' Story can be a poignant one

The Boys: The Sherman Brothers' Story

Director: Gregory V. Sherman, Jeff Sherman
Classification: STC
Rating: ⊕⊕⊕½

KEVIN COURRIER
for Metro Canada

REVIEW The Boys: The Sherman Brothers' Story is a touching, sometimes bittersweet, family portrait of two of America's most recognized songwriters: Richard and Robert Sherman.

Although they were a sibling partnership responsible for such pop hits as Tall Paul and You're Sixteen, they were most notably acclaimed as Walt Disney's "boys," the team who composed songs for a number of hit musicals for Disney Studios like The Parent Trap, Mary Poppins and The Jungle Book.

In The Boys: The Sherman Brothers' Story, the Sherman sons, directors Jeff and Greg Sherman, have thoughtfully uncovered their fathers' troubled relationship while simultaneously taking us deeper into their art.

They calmly illustrate how their fathers' most playfully cheerful songs like Chim Chim Cher-ee and Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious actually came out of painful circumstances.

The film makes clear that their conflicting temperaments were successfully channelled into their music — which then made it possible for them to work together. It brings a generous and loving spirit to their subject without ever sweetening it. Which is why, whether or not you're a fan of their music, this gently probing story has a lasting poignancy.

Tintin film goes into post-production

The actual filming of Steven Spielberg's The Adventures of Tintin: The Secret of the Unicorn has been completed, Peter Jackson, who is producing it, said in London this week. IMDB.COM

Going on an adventure at home

ANNE BRODIE
for Metro Canada

Rebecca Miller's creative life is inspiring. Living in the shadows of her father, Pulitzer Prize and Oscar winning playwright Arthur Miller and her Oscar-winning actor husband Daniel Day-Lewis, she's carving out her own life as a writer and filmmaker.

Miller, who is also an actress, painter and sculptor, lives with Day-Lewis and their sons Cashel Blake and Ronan Cal in near seclusion on an estate in Country Wicklow, Ireland. She's been there 11 years and says it's where she's happiest writing.

There's plenty of positive buzz around her latest project, the domestic drama The Private Lives of Pippa Lee, based on her novel. Robin Wright Penn, Alan Arkin, and Keanu Reeves star in the story of the much younger wife of an ageing writer. She married him when he was a worldly middle-aged professor and she was a rebellious teenager prone to acting out with sex and drugs.

Twenty years into their marriage she's caring for him in their retirement home, accepting her narrow life and its obligations. But when he begins an open affair with a younger woman, Pippa comes to life again in the arms of a young man.

Miller says the story was inspired by a chance meeting with an old friend. "She had a husband and children. She was very smoothed out. Her lifestyle had completely changed. I thought, 'Wow – how does that happen, how do you fit another girl inside this woman? How did she get there? How malleable is identity?'

"You meet a 50-year-old woman who is a certain way, she's a lovely host at dinner, and you think that's her. Meanwhile that's not her at all; she has all these other selves inside. With Pippa you realize very quickly that she has a past that you wouldn't guess. People have these lives you can hardly even imagine."

Wright Penn was cast as Pippa when Meryl Streep dropped out. She says she was challenged and inspired by the story and by Miller. "She thinks like a man, she tells a story like a man and that's not being biased against women in any way. But she cuts to the chase and I respond to that in a person."

Keanu Reeves and Robin Wright Penn star in The Private Lives of Pippa Lee.

Arkin was a tougher nut to crack. She had to cede some control when he signed on.

"Alan Arkin knew the guy so well, he knew Herb inside and out. When I first offered the role, he declined. He said he didn't want to go through that experience. But he did and he is just amazing and brilliant. His background is improv so we used some of his ideas."

Pitt backing Dark Void

According to The Hollywood Reporter, Reliance Big Entertainment and Brad Pitt's Plan B are developing a film version of the upcoming Capcom video game Dark Void, with Pitt in negotiations to star as the lead. IMDB.COM

Brothers in harm

Director makes bold casting choices

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada

Movie feature

Director Jim Sheridan burst onto the scene with the Oscar-winning My Left Foot in 1989 and since then has produced an eclectic body of work including In The Name Of The Father, the autobiographical In America, and the 50 Cent epic Get Rich Or Die Trying.

His latest movie is Brothers, a remake of the 2004 Danish film of the same name about a family torn apart by war and post-traumatic stress disorder.

For Sheridan it was his first remake and as such a project that he walked into somewhat trepidatiously.

"I wasn't consciously trying to make my movie different," Sheridan told Metro. "I was only trying to answer questions in the original movie that were interesting to me."

Jim Sheridan's version of the film is — typical of his work — more family-oriented, focusing on how surviving a painful and spiritually challenging POW experience could change a soldier to the extent that his family can barely recognize him when he returns home.

In the film, that soldier is played by Spider-Man himself, Tobey Maguire in a creative casting choice that works simply because audiences would never anticipate that Maguire would go through such brutal psychological changes.

It was a casting decision made specifically by Sheridan to play with audience expectations.

"That's why we cast Tobey, so that no one would expect it," revealed Sheridan.

That casting approach was also applied to the role of Maguire's ex-con brother who is surprisingly played by the typically gentle Jake Gyllenhaal. "Jake is often thought of as the lovable centre-of-attention character," said Sheridan.

"I found it interesting to cast him as the edgy ex-con just to play with that image. Some people don't want to buy these actors in different roles like this, but I always find it interesting. I think they're both very honest performers."

This creative use of actors is typical of Sheridan, who is a filmmaker not particularly interested in visual spectacle, but in creating actor-focused films that strive for interesting spins on reality rather than fantasy.

"I try to create a humanist set where the actors are important and the people are important," revealed the director.

"Rather than creating a universe where you're visually oriented, I'm more interested in capturing an emotional universe, which is invisible. I look for moments that are only going to appear once and are fleeting. I think that visuals can get in the way of that. So I just try to keep things simple."

It's a directorial approach that has served Jim Sheridan well throughout his career and can be felt in every scene of the subtly moving Brothers.

Expect to see the title pop up quite in the media as awards season rolls around.

Brothers opens in theatres next Friday

Tobey Maguire, left, and Jake Gyllenhaal star in Brothers.

"Jake (Gyllenhaal) is often thought of as the lovable centre-of-attention character I found it interesting to cast him as the edgy ex-con just to play with that image."
Director Jim Sheridan

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF "WILD HOGS"
"RIOTOUSLY FUNNY!" Pete Hammond, BOXOFFICE MAGAZINE
"HILARIOUS!" Lisa Stanley, CBS RADIO

TRAVOLTA Disney WILLIAMS
OLD DOGS
WALT DISNEY PICTURES PRESENTS JOHN TRAVOLTA ROBIN WILLIAMS "OLD DOGS" A TAPESTRY FILMS PRODUCTION A WALT BECKER FILM KELLY PRESTON SETH GREEN ELLA BLEU TRAVOLTA LORI LOUGHLIN AND MATT DILLON
DIRECTED BY WALT BECKER Disney.com/OldDogs
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"INSPIRATIONAL! IT'S THIS YEAR'S 'SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE.'" -Brian D. Johnson, MACLEAN'S
"'PRECIOUS' LEAVES YOU MOVED LIKE NO FILM IN YEARS. IT HAS A SPIRIT THAT SOARS!" -Peter Travers, ROLLING STONE
"★★★½" (out of four) -Katherine Monk, National Post
"★★★" (out of four) -Liam Lacey, Globe and Mail
WINNER PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD TORONTO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2009
WINNER GRAND JURY PRIZE SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL 2009

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SCREENPLAY BY GEOFFREY FLETCHER DIRECTED BY LEE DANIELS
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www.weareallprecious.com www.maplepictures.com LIONSGATE MAPLE PICTURES
STARTS TODAY! CINEMARK TINSELTOWN 12 12:30, 1:50, 3:30, 4:50, 6:15, 7:30, 8:50, 10:10 FESTIVAL CINEMAS FIFTH AVENUE 1:00, 1:30, 4:00, 4:30, 7:00, 7:20, 9:30, 9:45 CINEPLEX ENTERTAINMENT SILVERCITY 12:20, 3:35, 6:35, 9:30
For group rates at Cineplex Theatres please call 1-800-313-4461 or email groupsales@cineplex.com

Screen Times

This week's new releases are highlighted in pink.

THIS PAGE COVERS MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., NOV. 27 TO THURS., DEC. 3. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

VANCOUVER

OMNIMAX THEATRE SCIENCE WORLD
1455 Quebec St., 604-443-7443

Adrenaline Rush: The Science of Risk (STC) Fri-Thu 1 Sat 7:30
Beavers (STC) Fri-Thu 11:3
Journey to Mecca in the Footsteps of Ibn Battuta (STC) Fri-Thu 12-2:4 Fri-Sat
Van Gogh: Brush With Genius (STC) Fri-Thu 5 Fri 7:30

DUNBAR THEATRE
4555 Dunbar Street, 604-222-2991

2012 (PG) Fri 7:10:15 Sat-Sun 3:7:10:15 Mon-Thu 7

FIFTH AVENUE CINEMAS
2110 Burrard Street, 604-734-7469

An Education (PG) Fri-Tue 2:4:45:7:10:9:15 Wed 2:4:45:9:15 Thu 2:4:45:7:10:9:15
Fantastic Mr. Fox (G) Fri-Thu 1:45:3:45:6:8:10
The Hustler (STC) A.M. Sat 10
Precious: Based on the Novel "Push" by Sapphire (14A) Fri-Thu 1:1:30:4:4:30:7:7:20:9:30:9:45
The Twilight Saga: New Moon (PG) Fri-Sun 1:15:4:15:7:30:10:15 Mon 1:15:7:30:10:15 Tue-Wed 1:15:4:15:7:30:10:15 Thu 1:15:4:15:10:15

GRANVILLE
855 Granville St., 604-684-4000

Astro Boy (G) Sat-Sun 1:05:3:45
The Boys: The Sherman Brothers' Story (G) Fri 6:50:9:20 Sat-Sun 1:10:3:50:6:50:9:20 Mon-Thu 5:20:8:20
Coopers' Camera (STC) Fri 7:9:30 Sat-Sun 1:15:3:55:7:9:30 Mon-Thu 5:30:8:30
Couples Retreat (PG) Fri 6:40:9:10 Sat-Sun 1:3:40:6:40:9:10 Mon-Thu 5:10:8:10
Law Abiding Citizen (14A) Fri-Sun 6:45:9:15 Mon-Thu 5:15:8:15
Paranormal Activity (STC) Fri 7:10:9:40 Sat-Sun 1:30:4:10:7:10:9:40 Mon-Thu 5:40:8:40
Where the Wild Things Are (G) Fri 6:55:9:25 Sat-Sun 1:20:4:6:55:9:25 Mon-Thu 5:25:8:25
Zombieland (18A) Fri 7:05:9:35 Sat-Sun 1:25:4:05:7:05:9:35 Mon-Thu 5:35:8:35

HOLLYWOOD THEATRE
3123 W. Broadway, 604-738-3211
hollywoodtheatre.ca

The Cove (PG) Fri 7:30 Sat-Sun 1:30:7:30 Mon-Thu 7:30
Food, Inc. (G) Fri 9:15 Sat-Sun 3:15:9:15 Mon-Thu 9:15

OAKRIDGE
650 West 41st Ave., 604-263-1944

2012 (PG) DTS Digital Fri 8:30 DTS Digital Sat-Sun 1:15:4:45:8:30 DTS Digital Mon-Thu 5:8:30
The Blind Side (PG) DTS Digital, No Passes Fri 7:15:10:15 DTS Digital, No Passes Sat-Sun 1:4:7:15:10:15 DTS Digital Mon-Thu 5:10:8:10
The Twilight Saga: New Moon (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Fri 7:10:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Sat-Sun 12:45:3:45:7:10:10 Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Thu 5:20:8:20

PACIFIC CINÉMATHÈQUE
1131 Howe Street, 604-688-3456
cinematheque.bc.ca

12th Annual European Union Film Festival (STC) Fri-Sat 7 Sun 6:30 Mon-Thu 7

PARK THEATRE
3440 Cambie Street, 604-876-2747

Coco Before Chanel (PG) Fri 4:7:9:15 Sat-Sun 1:30:4:7:9:15 Mon-Thu 4:7:9:15

RIDGE THEATRE
3131 Arbutus Street, 604-738-6311

Romeo and Juliet HD Opera (STC) A.M. Sat 10
A Serious Man (PG) Fri 4:7:9:15 Sat-Sun 1:30:4:7:9:15 Mon-Wed 4:7:9:15 Thu 4:7

RIO ON BROADWAY
1660 E. Broadway, 604-878-Film
riotheatre.ca

The Lost Boys (STC) Fri 12
Near Dark (STC) Fri
The Twilight Saga: New Moon (PG) Fri 6:30:9:15 Sat-Sun 3:45:6:30:9:15 Mon-Thu 6:30:9:15

SCOTIABANK THEATRE VANCOUVER
900 Burrard St., 604-630-1407

2012 (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45:4:15:8 Fri-Tue 11:30:3:6:50:10:30 Wed 6:50:10:30 Thu 11:30:3:6:50:10:30
Disney's A Christmas Carol 3D (G) Fri-Thu 11:45:2:10:4:50:7:15:9:45
The Men Who Stare at Goats (PG) Fri-Sun 1:20:4:6:45:9:30 Mon 1:20:4:9:30 Tue-Thu 1:20:4:6:45:9:30
Ninja Assassin (18A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:10:2:40:5:15:7:50:10:35
Old Dogs (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:50:2:20:4:45:7:10:9:40
The Twilight Saga: New Moon (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:10:4:20:7:30:10:40 No Passes Fri-Thu 12:20:3:30:6:40:9:50 No Passes Fri-Thu 12:40:3:50:7:10:10

TINSELTOWN
International Village, 88 West Pender, 3rd floor, 604-806-0799
cinemark.com

Bad Lieutenant: Port of Call New Orleans (14A) No Passes Fri-Wed 1:25:4:15:7:15:10:05 No Passes Thu 1:25:4:15
The Blind Side (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:50:3:45:6:45:9:45 No Passes Fri-Thu 2:15:5:15:8:15
The Boondock Saints II: All Saints Day (18A) No Passes Fri-Wed 1:55:4:45:7:35:10:20 No Passes Thu 1:55:4:45:10:20
Fantastic Mr. Fox (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:1:05:2:10:3:20:4:30:5:40:6:50:8:9:10:10:15
Michael Jackson's This Is It (G) Fri-Thu 1:4:7:20:10
Pirate Radio (PG) Fri-Thu 1:30:5:05:7:45:10:25
Planet 51 (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:15:2:30:4:55:7:10:9:30
Precious: Based on the Novel "Push" by Sapphire (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:30:1:50:3:30:4:50:6:15:7:30:8:50:10:10
The Road (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:40:4:20:7:9:40

VANCITY THEATRE
Vancouver International Film Centre
1181 Seymour Street, 604-683-Film, vifc.org

35 Shots of Rum (STC) Fri 8:15 Sat 4:45 Sun 7:15 Mon 6:30
Munyurangabo (STC) Fri 6:30 Sat 8:30 Sun 4:45 Mon 6:30
The Road (14A) Tue 7:30
Treasures From the Vancouver City Archives (STC) Sun 2

VAN EAST CINEMA
2290 Commercial Drive, 604-251-1313
vaneast.com

2012 (PG) Fri-Tue 6:10:9:20 Wed-Thu 7

NORTH SHORE

ESPLANADE 6
200 West Esplanade, 604-983-2762

Bad Lieutenant: Port of Call New Orleans (14A) Fri 6:40:9:35 Sat-Sun 1:3:55:6:40:9:35 Mon-Thu 6:40:9:35
The Blind Side (PG) No Passes Fri 6:50:9:45 No Passes Sat-Sun 12:50:3:50:6:50:9:45 No Passes Mon-Thu 6:50:9:45
Disney's A Christmas Carol 3D (G) Fri 6:45:9:15 Sat-Sun 1:10:4:6:45:9:15 Mon-Thu 6:45:9:15
Ninja Assassin (18A) No Passes Fri 7:30:9:55 No Passes Sat-Sun 1:30:4:20:7:30:9:55 No Passes Mon-Thu 7:30:9:55
Old Dogs (G) No Passes Fri 7:9:40 No Passes Sat-Sun 1:15:4:10:7:9:40 No Passes Mon-Thu 7:9:40
Pirate Radio (PG) Fri 7:10:9:50 Sat-Sun 1:20:4:25:7:10:9:50 Mon-Thu 7:10:9:50

PARK & TILFORD
333 Brooksbank Ave., 604-985-3911

2012 (PG) Fri 6:40:8:10 Sat-Sun 12:1:3:10:4:30:6:40:8:10 Mon-Thu 6:40:8:10
Fantastic Mr. Fox (G) No Passes Fri 6:50:9:20 No Passes Sat-Sun 12:25:2:40:4:40:6:50:9:20 No Passes Mon-Thu 6:50:9:20 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Thu 1
Planet 51 (G) Fri 7:20:9:40 Sat-Sun 12:20:2:30:4:50:7:20:9:40 Mon-Thu 7:20:9:40
The Twilight Saga: New Moon (PG) No Passes Fri 6:30:7:10:9:30:10:10 No Passes Sat-Sun 12:10:12:40:3:3:30:6:30:7:10:9:30:10:10 No Passes Mon-Thu 6:30:7:10:9:30:10:10 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Thu 1

RICHMOND

RICHMOND CENTRE 6
6551 #3 Road, 604-273-7173

2012 (PG) Fri 4:25:7:45 Sat-Sun 1:05:4:25:7:45 Mon-Thu 4:25:7:45
Ninja Assassin (18A) No Passes Fri 4:15:7:10:9:40 No Passes Sat 1:15:4:15:7:10:9:40 No Passes Sun 1:15:4:15:7:10 No Passes Mon-Thu 4:15:7:10
Old Dogs (G) No Passes Fri 5:05:7:15:9:35 No Passes Sat 12:55:3:5:05:7:15:9:35 No Passes Sun 12:55:3:5:05:7:15 No Passes Mon-Thu 5:05:7:15
Planet 51 (G) Fri 4:05:7:9:30 Sat 1:10:4:05:7:9:30 Sun 1:10:4:05:7 Mon-Thu 4:05:7
The Twilight Saga: New Moon (PG) No Passes Fri 4:4:20:6:55:7:20:9:50:10:10 No Passes Sat 1:1:20:4:4:20:6:55:7:20:9:50:10:10 No Passes Sun 1:1:20:4:4:20:6:55:7:20 No Passes Mon-Thu 4:4:20:6:55:7:20

SILVERCITY RIVERPORT
14211 Entertainment Way, 604-272-7280

2012 (PG) Fri-Thu 11:30:12:05:3:15:3:45:6:55:7:25:10:35:11
Astro Boy (G) Fri-Thu 12:15
Bad Lieutenant: Port of Call New Orleans (14A) Fri-Thu 11:55:3:20:7:05:10:25
The Blind Side (PG) Fri-Thu 11:40:2:55:6:30:10
Disney's A Christmas Carol 3D (G) Fri-Thu 11:30:2:4:30:7:15:10:30
Disney's A Christmas Carol: An IMAX 3D Experience (G) Fri-Thu 12:2:30:5:7:30:10
Fantastic Mr. Fox (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:35:2:20:4:50:7:10:9:50
Law Abiding Citizen (14A) Fri-Thu 3:30:9:45
The Men Who Stare at Goats (PG) Fri-Thu 1:4:15:6:40:9:50
Michael Jackson's This Is It (G) Fri-Thu 12:30:6:50
Ninja Assassin (18A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:1:3:4:7:7:50:10:15:10:50
Old Dogs (G) No Passes Fri-Wed 11:50:2:30:5:7:35:10:20 No Passes Thu 5:7:35:10:20 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Thu 1
Pirate Radio (PG) Fri-Thu 1:15:4:15:7:40:10:40
Planet 51 (G) Fri-Thu 11:45:2:15:4:45:7:20:9:55
The Road (14A) Fri-Thu 1:05:4:20:7:30:10:50
The Twilight Saga: New Moon (PG) No Passes Fri-Wed 1:30:2:3:05:4:30:5:05:6:35:7:45:8:15:10:05:10:45 No Passes Thu 2:3:05:4:30:5:05:6:35:7:45:8:15:10:05:10:45 No Passes Fri-Thu 12:45:4:7:15:10:30 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Thu 1

BURNABY

DOLPHIN CINEMAS
4555 E. Hastings St., 604-293-0332

2012 (PG) Fri 7:9:55 Sat-Sun 1:4:7:9:55 Mon-Thu 7:9:55
The Twilight Saga: New Moon (PG) Fri 7:9:30 Sat-Sun 1:4:7:9:30 Mon-Thu 7:9:30

SILVERCITY METROPOLIS
4700 Kingsway Ave., 604-435-7474

2012 (PG) Fri-Thu 11:15:1:2:45:5:6:45:9:10:15
The Blind Side (PG) Fri-Thu 12:15:3:30:6:40:10
Disney's A Christmas Carol 3D (G) Fri-Mon 11:30:2:4:30:7:9:40 Tue 12:2:15:4:30:7:9:40 Wed-Thu 11:30:2:4:30:7:9:40
Fantastic Mr. Fox (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:10:2:30:4:55:7:15:9:50
Ninja Assassin (18A) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:15:4:15:7:20:10:25
Old Dogs (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:05:2:35:5:05:7:25:9:55
Planet 51 (G) Fri-Thu 12:2:25:4:45:7:05:9:30
The Twilight Saga: New Moon (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:45:4:7:30:10:30 No Passes Fri-Thu 11:45:3:6:30:9:45

STATION SQUARE
220-6200 McKay Ave., 604-434-7711

Astro Boy (G) Fri 4:25 Sat-Sun 1:25:4:25 Mon-Thu 4:25
The Boondock Saints II: All Saints Day (18A) Fri 4:7:10 Sat 1:4:7:10 Sun 1:4:7 Mon-Thu 4:7
The Box (PG) Fri-Sat 7:05:10:05 Sun-Thu 7:05
Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs (G) Fri 4:30 Sat-Sun 1:30:4:30 Mon-Thu 4:30
Couples Retreat (PG) Fri-Sat 10:10 Sun-Thu 7:15
Law Abiding Citizen (14A) Fri 4:10:7:15:10:20 Sat 1:10:4:10:7:15:10:20 Sun 1:10:4:10:7:15 Mon-Thu 4:10:7:15
The Men Who Stare at Goats (PG) Fri 4:20:7:25:10:25 Sat 1:20:4:20:7:25:10:25 Sun 1:20:4:20:7:25 Mon-Thu 4:20:7:25
Michael Jackson's This Is It (G) Fri 4:05:7:10:10:15 Sat 1:05:4:05:7:10:10:15 Sun 1:05:4:05:7:10 Mon-Thu 4:05:7:10
Paranormal Activity (STC) Fri-Sat 7:30:10:30 Sun-Thu 7:30
Where the Wild Things Are (G) Fri 4:15:7:20 Sat 1:15:4:15:7:20 Sun 1:15:4:15 Mon-Thu 4:15

NEW WEST/ COQUITLAM

SILVERCITY COQUITLAM
170 Schoolhouse Street, 604-523-2911

2012 (PG) Fri 11:45:12:35:3:15:4:05:7:05:8:10:35 Sat 12:35:3:15:4:05:7:05:8:10:35 Sun-Thu 11:45:12:35:3:15:4:05:7:05:8:10:35
Astro Boy (G) Fri-Thu 11:55
The Blind Side (PG) Fri-Thu 12:15:3:30:7:05:10:30
The Boondock Saints II: All Saints Day (18A) Fri-Thu 12:45:3:50:7:10:10:25
Couples Retreat (PG) Fri-Thu 4:05:10:45
Disney's A Christmas Carol 3D (G) Fri-Thu 11:35:2:15:4:55:7:30:9:55
Fantastic Mr. Fox (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:40:2:10:4:45:7:10:9:55
Law Abiding Citizen (14A) Fri-Thu 12:50:4:10:7:35:10:40
The Men Who Stare at Goats (PG) Fri-Thu 12:05:3:35:7:25:10:10
Michael Jackson's This Is It (G) Fri-Thu 12:25:3:40:6:45:10:05
Ninja Assassin (18A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:10:12:40:3:30:4:10:6:50:7:20:9:40:10:20
Old Dogs (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:50:2:20:4:40:7:10:9:45
Pirate Radio (PG) Fri-Thu 12:10:7:40
Planet 51 (G) Fri 11:40:2:05:4:30:7:10:9:50 Sat 2:05:4:30:7:10:9:50 Sun-Thu 11:40:2:05:4:30:7:10:9:50
Precious: Based on the Novel "Push" by Sapphire (14A) No Passes Fri-Tue 12:20:3:35:6:35:9:30 No Passes Wed 3:35:6:35:9:30 No Passes Thu 12:20:3:35:6:35:9:30 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
The Road (14A) Fri-Thu 12:15:3:50:6:50:9:55
The Twilight Saga: New Moon (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:2:45:3:15:6:30:7:15:10:15:10:30 No Passes Fri-Thu 12:30:3:40:6:45:9:45 No Passes Fri-Tue 1:4:7:10 No Passes Wed 4:7:10 No Passes Thu 1:4:7:10 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1

SURREY/WHITE ROCK/LANGLEY

CLOVA
5732-176th St., Surrey, 604-541-9527

Disney's A Christmas Carol (G) Fri 7:9 Sat 1:30:7:9 Sun 1:30:7 Mon-Thu 7

HOLLYWOOD 3 CINEMA
7125-138th Street, Surrey, 604-592-4441

Astro Boy (G) Fri 4:30 Sat-Sun 2:30:4:30 Mon-Thu 4:30
Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs (G) Fri 4:30:6:15 Sat-Sun 12:30:2:30:4:30:6:15 Mon-Thu 4:30:6:15
Couples Retreat (PG) Fri 8:30 Sat-Sun 12:8:30 Mon-Thu 8:30
Law Abiding Citizen (14A) Fri-Thu 8:45
The Men Who Stare at Goats (PG) Fri-Thu 7:55
Michael Jackson's This Is It (G) Fri 6:30 Sat-Sun 12:6:30 Mon-Thu 6:30
Paranormal Activity (STC) Fri-Thu 9:45
Where the Wild Things Are (G) Fri 4:30:6:30 Sat-Sun 2:15:4:30:6:30 Mon-Thu 4:30:6:30

STRAWBERRY HILL GRANDE
12161-72nd Ave, Surrey, 604-501-9400

2012 (PG) Fri-Thu 12:3:30:6:55:10:30
The Blind Side (PG) Fri-Thu 1:4:7:05:10:05
De Dana Dan (STC) Fri-Thu 12:50:4:30:8
Disney's A Christmas Carol 3D (G) Fri-Thu 12:20:2:40:5:05:7:30:10
Fantastic Mr. Fox (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:05:2:20:4:50:7:35:10:10
Heer Ranjha (STC) Fri-Thu 1:05:4:25:7:50
Kurbaan (14A) Fri-Thu 12:30:4:35:8:10
Ninja Assassin (18A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:35:3:35:7:9:30
Old Dogs (G) No Passes Fri-Tue 12:15:2:50:5:10:7:40:9:55 No Passes Wed 5:10:7:40:9:55 No Passes Thu 12:15:2:50:5:10:7:40:9:55 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
Planet 51 (G) Fri-Thu 12:10:2:30:4:55:7:25:9:50
The Twilight Saga: New Moon (PG) No Passes Fri-Tue 12:45:1:15:3:45:4:15:6:45:7:15:9:45:10:15 No Passes Wed 1:15:3:45:4:15:6:45:7:15:9:45:10:15 No Passes Thu 12:45:1:15:3:45:4:15:6:45:7:15:9:45:10:15 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1

STUDIO 12 GUILDFORD
15051-101st Ave, Surrey, 604-581-1176

2012 (PG) Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital Fri-Sun 1:15:3:5:6:45:9:10:15 Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Thu 1:15:3:5:6:45:9
The Blind Side (PG) Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Fri-Sun 12:45:4:15:7:15:10:20 Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Thu 12:45:4:15:7:15:10:20
A Christmas Carol (STC) Fri-Thu 1:20:4:20:7:20:9:50
De Dana Dan (STC) Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital Fri-Thu 12:35:3:55:7:45
Fantastic Mr. Fox (G) Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital Fri-Thu 12:40:3:40:6:40:9:15
Ninja Assassin (18A) Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Fri-Thu 12:55:3:45:6:55:9:30
Old Dogs (G) Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Fri-Thu 1:05:4:25:7:05:9:25
Planet 51 (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:10:4:10:7:10:9:40
The Twilight Saga: New Moon (PG) Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Fri-Sun 12:30:1:1:30:3:30:4:4:30:6:30:7:7:30:9:30:10:10:10:30 Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Thu 12:30:1:1:30:3:30:4:4:30:6:30:7:7:30:9:30:10:10

RIALTO
1732-152nd Street, White Rock, 604-541-9527, criterionttheatres.com

The Blind Side (PG) No Passes Fri 7:9:25 No Passes Sat-Sun 2:7:9:25 No Passes Mon-Thu 7:9:25
Old Dogs (G) No Passes Fri 7:15:9:05 No Passes Sat-Sun 2:10:7:15:9:05 No Passes Mon-Thu 7:15:9:05

CRITERION 4 WHITE ROCK
2381 King George Highway, 604-531-7456, criterionttheatres.com

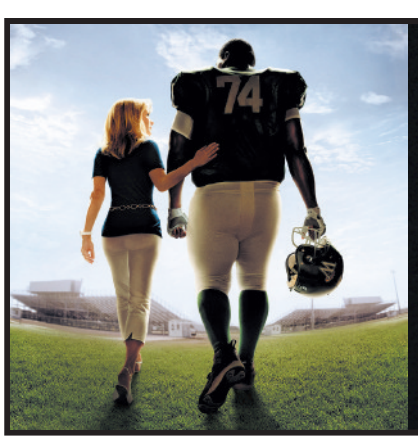
2012 (PG) Fri 6:30:9:35 Sat 2:10:6:30:9:35 Sun 2:10:7:30 Mon-Thu 7:30
Planet 51 (G) No Passes Fri 7:15:9:10 No Passes Sat-Sun 2:20:7:15:9:10 No Passes Mon-Thu 7:15:9:10
The Twilight Saga: New Moon (PG) No Passes Fri 6:45:7:9:30:9:40 No Passes Sat-Sun 2:2:30:6:45:7:9:30:9:40 No Passes Mon-Thu 6:45:7:9:30:9:40

COLOSSUS LANGLEY
20090-91A Ave, Langley, 604-513-8747

2012 (PG) Fri-Sun 12:12:55:3:35:5:7:9:05:10:30 Mon-Thu 3:35:5:7:9:05:10:30
Astro Boy (G) Fri-Sun 11:45
The Blind Side (PG) Fri-Sun 12:35:3:55:7:10:10:15 Mon-Tue 3:55:7:10:10:15 Wed 7:10:10:15 Thu 3:55:7:10:10:15 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 3
Couples Retreat (PG) Fri-Sun 12:40:4:10:7:30:10:25 Mon-Thu 4:10:7:30:10:25
Disney's A Christmas Carol 3D (G) Fri-Sun 12:20:2:55:5:30:8:10:25 Mon-Thu 5:7:30:10
Disney's A Christmas Carol: An IMAX 3D Experience (G) Fri-Sun 12:2:30:5:7:30:10 Mon-Thu 4:7:9:25
Fantastic Mr. Fox (G) No Passes Fri-Sun 12:15:2:35:4:55:7:30:10:05 No Passes Mon-Thu 4:55:7:30:10:05
Law Abiding Citizen (14A) Fri-Sun 12:45:3:40:7:25:10:20 Mon-Thu 3:40:7:25:10:20
The Men Who Stare at Goats (PG) Fri-Sun 1:10:3:50:7:05:9:40 Mon-Thu 3:50:7:05:9:40
Ninja Assassin (18A) No Passes Fri-Sun 12:50:3:45:7:05:9:55 No Passes Mon-Thu 3:45:7:05:9:55
Old Dogs (G) No Passes Fri-Sun 12:10:2:30:5:05:7:35:9:55 No Passes Mon-Thu 5:05:7:35:9:55
Paranormal Activity (STC) Fri-Sun 12:25:2:40:5:05:7:45:10:20 Mon-Thu 5:05:7:45:10:20
Pirate Radio (PG) Fri-Sun 1:05:4:05:7:20:10:10 Mon-Thu 4:05:7:20:10:10
Planet 51 (G) Fri-Sun 12:05:2:25:4:45:7:10:9:45 Mon-Thu 4:45:7:10:9:45
The Road (14A) Fri-Sun 12:15:3:55:7:15:10:30 Mon-Thu 3:55:7:15:10:30
The Twilight Saga: New Moon (PG) No Passes Fri-Sun 12:12:30:2:30:3:3:30:5:45:6:15:6:45:9:9:30:10 No Passes Mon-Thu 3:30:5:45:6:15:6:45:9:9:30:10 No Passes Fri-Sun 1:4:7:15:10:30 No Passes Mon-Thu 4:7:15:10:30 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 3

TWILIGHT DRIVE-IN
260th Street & Fraser Highway, Langley, 604-856-5063

The Fourth Kind (STC) Fri-Sun 9:15
The Men Who Stare at Goats (PG) Fri-Sun 7:30



"BOTH FUNNY AND UPLIFTING,
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Billboard's top albums
1. Battle Studies, John Mayer; 2. My Christmas, Andrea Bocelli; 3. The Fall, Norah Jones; 4. Until the Whole World Hears, Casting Crowns; 5. Before I Self-Destruct, 50 Cent. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Music

Centre of the storm

Controversy surrounds release of Adam Lambert's new album

BRYAN BORZYKOWSKI
for Metro Canada

Before last Sunday, Adam Lambert was famous for two things: Being the first openly gay American Idol contestant and losing the Idol title he clearly should have won.

But after an over-the-top American Music Awards performance — he kissed his male keyboardist and participated in a simulated sex act — he's suddenly become the most controversial artist in the music biz.

"I figured it would have got some reaction," says Lambert on the phone from New York. "But I didn't think it would get to this level."

While the spiky-haired singer didn't want to offend the AMA's television audience, and he says it wasn't pre-meditated, he does admit that he was "going with the motions, in the spirit of rock 'n' roll and I was having a good time."

His performance got him booted from a Good Morning America appearance, and he may have alienated some of his more wholesome fans, but if Lambert really was channeling the spirit of rock''n' roll, he knows that controversy can do wonders for album sales.

His new disc, For Your Entertainment, was released earlier this week, so it's too early to tell if his stunt has paid off at the cash register (is there any doubt?), but it may not have needed the extra boost. The disc is easily the most eclectic post-Idol record ever released. It pays homage to everyone from Queen and David Bowie to Lady Gaga, who co-wrote some tracks on the album.

Singer Adam Lambert has become one of the most controversial artists in the music business.

The title tune, now known as that song from the AMAs, is full of sexual innuendo — "Can you handle what I'm 'bout to do? Cause it's about to get rough for you," he sings — but Lambert wants people to know that it's the only hedonistic tune on the disc.

"That's the one song on the album dealing with a sex thing," says the articulate artist, almost defensively. "That's the one thing I'm concerned about. I don't want people to assume that's the kind of artist I'm going to be."

Problem is, it's not the only sex-themed song. In the Gaga-penned Fever he sings about a threesome, and other songs can be taken a number of different ways. But really, who cares? Lambert's done something that takes most other American Idol contestants at least two or three albums to do — he's developed his own identity.

It may be a polarizing one, but he admits, that's fine with him. "People love me or hate me and that's the way it will be for the rest of my career," he says.

"If anything can be said about my performance on American Idol is that it was different from week to week and I plan on conducting my career in the same way. I have a lot more tricks up my sleeve."
Adam Lambert

That love-hate relationship is made a bit more complex, however, because he is gay. He knows a lot of Americans are still uncomfortable with the idea. "People say 'we're ready for it'," he explains, "but when it (actually happens) they're not ready."

Of course, that's not going to stop him from playing, and performing, the way he wants to. "If anything can be said about my performance on American Idol is that it was different from week to week and I plan on conducting my career in the same way," he says. "I have a lot more tricks up my sleeve."

Be afraid of secret copyright deal

SoundCheck
Alan Cross
metronews.ca/soundcheck

What you're about to read is not something cooked up by some whacko group of conspiracy theorists.

Agents from countries around the world — the U.S., the U.K., the EU, Switzerland, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, South Korea, Singapore, Mexico, Morocco and, yes, Canada — are secretly drafting the Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement.

Despite the cone of silence demanded by the Obama administration on "national security" reasons, some details on ACTA have leaked out.

- ISPs will be turned into copyright cops and be required by law to filter out anything they think might be pirated material. This will mean monitoring sites that offer user-created material. Given the enormity and complexity of that requirement, consider the chill that will cast over music sites, even perfectly legal ones.
- If you're accused three times (just accused, not convicted) by your ISP of using their pipes for illegally downloading copyrighted material like music, your household will be banned from the Internet for a year and forced to pay a fine. Little Susie thrice caught with her hand in the BitTorrent jar? The whole family will suffer.
- Want to make a backup copy of that DVD you bought by bypassing its copy-protection scheme? All DRM cracking — even for legal reasons — will be illegal.
- Want to use identity-blocking software to maintain online anonymity? Not anymore you won't.
- But I saved the best for last. Customs officers of signatory countries will have the right to force you to prove that all the data on your iPod or laptop was acquired legally. If Charlie the border guard suspects that even one of the music files on your Nano was obtained illegally, welcome to the world of search and seizure without the benefit of a lawyer.

Bottom line is that ACTA could be in place by 2010 and you won't be able to do a damn thing about it. Federal trade agreements don't require parliamentary approval. One signature from the appropriate government representative and it's the law.

Be afraid. Very afraid.

The Ongoing History Of New Music can be heard on stations across Canada. Read more at ongoinghistory.com and exploremusic.com

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The Pimple Healer (Mario Badescu) dries out pimples overnight and helps prevent breakouts.

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SNL injects some new blood into guest host lineup

Saturday Night Live is jumping on the Twilight bandwagon. The show will welcome New Moon star Taylor Lautner as well as Gossip Girl leading lady Blake Lively and General Hospital's newest hunk, James Franco, next month. TVGUIDE.COM

Television

So You Think You Can Dance Canada winner Nico Archembault embodies famed dancer Rudolf Nureyev in the new Bravo! biopic.

Canadian dancer brings sex appeal to Nureyev

'Dance' winner plays Russian legend

JOHN KEILLOR
for Metro Canada

Filmmaker Moze Mossanen brings international intrigue and artistic genius together in his new Bravo! production

Nureyev, about the great Russian dancer who famously, dangerously defected in a Paris airport during the Cold War, and then revolutionized ballet in the West while evading Soviet recapture.

Rudolf Nureyev's wild elfin beauty, his genius and his limitless technique present a self-evident casting nightmare, but lithe Nico Archembault, winner of 2008's So You Think You Can Dance competition, has the necessary talent and the charismatic handsomeness. Still, playing Nureyev is a daunting task.

"He remade the male dancer's role," says Archembault by phone. "Before Nureyev, men on stage were mostly props that women danced around. Nureyev changed everything. He was physically one of the greatest dancers who ever lived, and he was also mysterious yet flamboyant."

Archembault is an all-round dancer, a master of many styles, but moving into the purely ballet realm is tough. Professionals can spend a decade or more getting some of those moves right. Ballet makes some unique demands on the body that modern and jazz styles don't require.

Luckily, Archembault, who recently danced in a Janet Jackson video, has a complete background to build upon for the challenge of performing as Nureyev, including classical ballet.

"Ballet has been part of my routine all my life," he says, "it's always been part of my warm up and my work out. And since I got the role, I've been concentrating on ballet, with lots of private lessons."

Nureyev the man also represents more than skills and brilliance—as a defector from the U.S.S.R, which treasured its dancers, Nureyev has always been synonymous with defiant individuality.

"He escaped a brutal regime," Archembault says appreciably, "when there was huge pressure for Russian artists to conform to the state. But if you suppress all individuality then nothing new is ever created."

Nureyev's example obviously inspired Archembault.

"He (Nureyev) resonates with me a lot. You have to be free to be challenged, as an individual, in order to grow and be of any use to anyone."

"(Rudolph Nureyev) was physically one of the greatest dancers who ever lived, and he was also mysterious yet flamboyant."
Nico Archembault

Nureyev airs on Bravo! on Tuesday night

FRIDAY 11/27/09

VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime	251	308	3 CBC	Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Ron James	Rick Mercer	CBC News: the fifth estate		CBC News: The National (N)		The Hour (N)
	250	321	9 CTV	etalk (CC)	Access H.	The 40-Year-Old Virgin ★★★ (2005) (PA) Steve Carell.				Colbert Christmas: Gift		CTV News
	252	336	11 GTV	Entertainment	ET Canada	Ice Age: The Meltdown ★★ (2006) Premiere. (CC)				NUMB3RS "Jacked" (CC)		News
	256	389	12 VI	Degrassi	TMZ (N)	Law & Order "By Perjury"		Law & Order: SVU		Comedy Now	Comedy Now	A News (N)
	253	359	13 CITY	The Office	The Office	Supernanny (N) (CC)		Ugly Betty (N) (CC)		The Jay Leno Show (CC)		The CityNews
	-	-	14 CW	The Office	The Office	Smallville "Savior" (CC)		Next Top Model		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier (CC)
	289	381	15 CBS	Entertainment	The Insider	Ghost Whisperer (CC)		Medium (CC)		NUMB3RS "Jacked" (CC)		KIRO 7 News
	287	379	16 NBC	Holiday Celebration		The 40-Year-Old Virgin ★★★ (2005) (PA) Steve Carell.				The Jay Leno Show (CC)		KING 5 News
	288	380	21 ABC	Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Supernanny (N) (CC)		Ugly Betty (N) (CC)		20/20 (CC)		News
	290	382	23 FOX	Two Men	Two Men	Ice Age: The Meltdown ★★ (2006) Premiere. (CC)				News	Most Wanted	Family Guy
news	502	390	23 NW	Carbon Hunters (CC)		CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National (N)		Carbon Hunters (CC)		National
	500	500	33 CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)				Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)		Cooper 360
sports	407	419	22 RSP	Top 50 Spectacular Plays		Hockey	Canucks TV	Air Racing		Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Sportsnet
	400	400	30 TSN	SportsCentre (Live) (CC)			Off-Record	World Extreme Cagefighting Mike Brown vs. Jose Aldo.				SportsCentre
family	552	543	25 YTV	Material Girls ★ (2006) Hilary Duff, Haylie Duff. (CC)				Prank Patrol	Prank Patrol	That's-Weird	Sorry	Adrenaline
	555	545	50 TEL	Batman	Star Wars	Star Wars	Star Wars	Futurama	King of Hill	Aeon Flux ★★ (2005) Charlize Theron.		
	268	354	5 KNO	Battlefield Mysteries (CC)		Poirot (CC)		New Tricks (N) (CC)		Long Night's Journey Into Day ★★★★		
variety	575	583	20 CMT	Live at Cedar Creek		Terri Clark	Gypsy Boots	Cheerleaders	Cheerleaders	Live at Cedar Creek		Terri Clark
	615	520	31 A&E	Criminal Minds "Bloodline"		CSI: Miami "Cheating Death"		(:01) Criminal Minds (CC)		(:01) Criminal Minds (CC)		Criminal
	521	560	24 TLC	Happily Ever	Happily Ever	Dress	Dress	Say Yes to the Dress		Happily Ever	Happily Ever	Yes Dress
	616	522	39 SHO	The Outer Limits (CC)		Howie Do It	Howie Do It	Kenny	Kenny	Law & Order: UK "Unloved"		Cra$h & Burn
cable	294	650	57 TBS	(6:00) The Santa Clause (CC)		The Sweetest Thing ★ (2002) (CC)			Ellen's Bigger, Longer Show		Crocodile Dundee ★★★	
	603	561	69 FN	Diners	Diners	Ramsay's Kitchen		Unwrapped	Unwrapped	Bobby Flay	Bobby Flay	Diners
	-	-	35 AMC	(5:00) Unforgiven ★★★★		Escape From Alcatraz ★★★ (1979, Suspense) Clint Eastwood. (CC)				The Fly II ★★ (1989)		
	320	621	30 CEN	(6:15) Eastern Promises (CC)		Knowing ★★ (2009) Nicolas Cage, Rose Byrne. Premiere.				American Gangster ★★★ (2007) (CC)		
	581	566	101 MTV	The Hills	Peak Season	1 girl 5 gays	Cribs (CC)	Kenya	OverBolts	The Hills	Peak Season	After

SATURDAY 11/28/09

VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime	251	308	3 CBC	NHL Hockey Edmonton Oilers at Vancouver Canucks. (Live) (CC)					HNIC: After Hours		News	HNIC Replay
	250	321	9 CTV	Sid vs. Alexander		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		Criminal Minds (CC)		Russell Peters: Red, White		CTV News
	252	336	11 GTV	renegade	Jane Show	Project Runway Canada		Recipe for a Perfect Christmas (2005) Christine Baranski.				News Final
	256	389	12 VI	New Canoe	Island Week	Kool Countdown (CC)		The Road to Avonlea		Whistler (CC) (DVS)		Bravo!FACT
	253	359	13 CITY	My RONA Home		Glenn Martin	Out There	A Lover's Revenge (2005) Alexandra Paul. (CC) (DVS)				Amazing
	-	-	14 CW	The Office	The Office	Smash Cuts	Smash Cuts	The Hills	The Hills	CSI: NY "The Box" (CC)		CSI: Miami
	289	381	15 CBS	Paid Program	Paid Program	The Good Wife "Fixed"		Criminal Minds (CC)		48 Hours Mystery (N) (CC)		KIRO 7 News
	287	379	16 NBC	Backroads	Inside Edition	Madagascar	The Incredibles ★★★ (2004, Adventure) Voices of Craig T. Nelson. (CC)					KING 5 News
	288	380	21 ABC	(5:00) College Football Regional Coverage.			NASCAR	Fortune	Jeopardy!	Northern Exposure (CC)		News
	290	382	23 FOX	Two Men	Two Men	Cops (N) (PA)	Cops (CC)	America's Most Wanted		News	Most Wanted	Wanda Sykes
news	502	390	23 NW	The World of Haute Couture		National	Issue	National	Mansbridge	The World of Haute Couture		National
	500	500	33 CNN	Newsroom		Campbell Brown		Larry King Live		Newsroom		Newsroom
sports	407	419	22 RSP	English Premier League Soccer			MMA Conn	The Ultimate Fighter		Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Poker
	400	400	30 TSN	SportsCentre (Live) (CC)			ATP Tennis World Tour Masters 1000: First Semifinal. From London.					SportsCentre
family	552	543	25 YTV	Prank Patrol	Prank Patrol	Funniest Home Videos		That's-Weird	Sorry	Survive This	Ghost	Adrenaline
	555	545	50 TEL	Ben 10: Alien Swarm (2009) Ryan Kelley. Premiere.				Futurama	King of Hill	Chicken	Venture Bros.	Moral Orel (N)
	268	354	5 KNO	National Geographic		Heartbeat "Return Crossing"		Midsomer Murders "The Magician's Nephew" (N) (CC)				Jazz
variety	575	583	20 CMT	Mermaids ★★★ (1990, Comedy-Drama) Cher, Winona Ryder, Bob Hoskins.						Mermaids ★★★ (1990) Cher, Bob Hoskins.		
	615	520	31 A&E	Criminal Minds "Distress"		CSI: Miami "Payback" (CC)		(:01) Criminal Minds (CC)		(:01) Criminal Minds (CC)		Criminal
	521	560	24 TLC	What Not to Wear "Mayim"		What Not to Wear "Ariel"		What Not to Wear "Tamara"		What Not to Wear "Mayim"		Fashioning
	616	522	39 SHO	The Guard (CC)		Christmas Caper (2007) Shannen Doherty. (CC)				Premonition ★★ (2007) Sandra Bullock.		
cable	294	650	57 TBS	Jingle	(:45) The School of Rock ★★★ (2003) Jack Black, Joan Cusack. (CC)					(:15) Home Alone 3 ★ (1997) Alex D. Linz.		
	603	561	69 FN	Top Chef: Las Vegas (CC)		The F Word (CC)		Dear Food Network (CC)		Chopped "Bring It!" (CC)		Chef: Vegas
	-	-	35 AMC	(5:00) The Green Mile ★★★ (1999) Tom Hanks. (CC)				Demolition Man ★★ (1993) Sylvester Stallone, Wesley Snipes.				
	320	621	30 CEN	(6:15) Doubt ★★★ (2008)		The International ★★ (2009) Clive Owen. Premiere. (CC)				Killshot (2009) Diane Lane. Premiere. (CC)		
	581	566	101 MTV	Cribs (CC)	Cribs (CC)	Cribs (CC)	1 girl 5 gays	Peak Season	After	After	After	1 girl 5 gays

SUNDAY 11/29/09

VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime	251	308	3 CBC	Heartland "Miracle"		Elf ★★★ (2003, Comedy) Will Ferrell, James Caan. (CC)				CBC News: The National (N)		News
	250	321	9 CTV	Corner Gas	Corner Gas	The Amazing Race 15 (N)		Desperate Housewives (N)		(:01) CSI: Miami (CC)		CTV News
	252	336	11 GTV	16:9 Picture	Prod. Parker	Simpsons	Cleveland Sh	Family Guy	Amer Dad	(:01) Brothers & Sisters (N)		News Final
	256	389	12 VI	Next Top Model		Too Cool for Christmas (2004) George Hamilton. (CC) (DVS)				Spectacle: Elvis		New Canoe
	253	359	13 CITY	Survivorman (CC) (DVS)		Extreme Makeover: Home		My RONA Home (N)		Conviction Kitchen		Amazing
	-	-	14 CW	Boston Legal (CC)		CSI: Miami "Backstabbers"		CSI: NY "The Triangle"		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier (CC)
	289	381	15 CBS	60 Minutes (N) (CC)		The Amazing Race 15 (N)		A Dog Named Christmas (2009) Bruce Greenwood. (CC)				KIRO 7 News
	287	379	16 NBC	NFL Football: Steelers at Ravens			The Jim Mora	Dateline NBC (CC)		Law & Order: SVU		KING 5 News
	288	380	21 ABC	Funniest Home Videos		Extreme Makeover: Home		Desperate Housewives (N)		(:01) Brothers & Sisters (N)		News
	290	382	23 FOX	Brothers	'Til Death	Simpsons	Cleveland Sh	Family Guy	Amer Dad	News	Sports	House (CC)
news	502	390	23 NW	Surviving Mumbai (N) (CC)		Mystery of the Floating Feet		CBC News: The National		Surviving Mumbai (CC)		Floating Feet
	500	500	33 CNN	Newsroom		State of the Union		Larry King Live		State of the Union		Union
sports	407	419	22 RSP	NHL Hockey San Jose Sharks at Vancouver Canucks. (Subject to Blackout)					Sportsnet	Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Sportsnet
	400	400	30 TSN	Postgame	SportsCentre (Live) (CC)			ATP Tennis World Tour Masters 1000: Final. From London.				SportsCentre
family	552	543	25 YTV	Christmas With the Kranks		SpongeBob	Family Biz (N)	Smallville "Legion" (CC)		Survive This	Ghost	Adrenaline
	555	545	50 TEL	Total Drama	Total Drama	Total Drama	Total Drama	Futurama	King of Hill	Bromwell	Rick & Steve	John
	268	354	5 KNO	National Geographic		A Touch of Frost "Dancing in the Dark" (CC)				New Tricks (CC)		Beautiful
variety	575	583	20 CMT	Cheer Moms	Cheer Moms	Tuckerville	Tuckerville	Funniest Home Videos		Wilsons	Wilsons	Cheer Moms
	615	520	31 A&E	Criminal Minds (CC)		CSI: Miami (CC)		(:01) Criminal Minds "Jones"		(:01) Criminal Minds (CC)		Criminal
	521	560	24 TLC	650-lb. Virgin		Half-Ton Teen		650-lb. Virgin (CC)		650-lb. Virgin		Teen
	616	522	39 SHO	Cra$h & Burn "Trust" (CC)		Recipe for a Perfect Christmas (2005) Christine Baranski.				Weeds (N)	Found.	Kenny
cable	294	650	57 TBS	(6:45) The Santa Clause ★★★ (1994) (CC)		(:45) Daddy Day Camp ★ (2007) Cuba Gooding Jr. (CC)				(:45) George of the Jungle		
	603	561	69 FN	Dinner: Impossible (CC)		Restaurant Makeover (CC)		Get on Plate	Food	Iron Chef America (CC)		Dinner
	-	-	35 AMC	The Prisoner "Anvil; Darling" (CC)				The Prisoner "Anvil; Darling" (CC)				Godfather III
	320	621	30 CEN	(6:55) Atonement ★★★ (2007) James McAvoy. (CC)				Dexter "Lost Boys" (N)		The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (CC)		
	581	566	101 MTV	Real World-Road Rules		1 girl 5 gays	OverBolts	Peak Season	Peak Season	Real World-Road Rules		1 girl 5 gays

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Tequila sex tape

TMZ.com is reporting that MTV reality star Tila Tequila is the latest celebrity at the centre of a sex tape scandal. A 10-second clip surfaced on a website. **POPEATER.COM**

Going Out

Metro's 7th Heaven: Metro taps what's hot right now

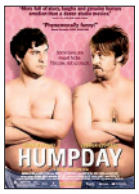
1 Victoria's Secret Fashion Show

TV Santa's granted your wish — a little early this year. On Dec. 1, CBS will broadcast a holiday-themed pageant from the house of hot lingerie. Heidi Klum hosts and the Black Eyed Peas perform. Models? Marisa Miller, Alessandra Ambrosio, Doutzen Kroes and Miranda Kerr, to name a few. Check local listings for air times.

2 Fantastic Mr. Fox

FILM Like a smack in the face of all the CGI-driven drivel comes this old-school, stop-motion animation from one of the quirkiest directors working in Hollywood. Wes Anderson updates the beloved Roald Dahl story with a little help from star voiceovers — including George Clooney, Meryl Streep and Bill Murray.

3 Humpday



DVD Straight guy meets straight guy friend after 10 years, go to a party, get drunk and decide to make arty gay porn film starring themselves. What sounds like a bromance to end all bromances is actually just a premise for a journey through male egotism. It helps that there are plenty of laughs on the way. Starring Mark Duplass and Joshua Leonard.

4 I Dreamed a Dream: Susan Boyle

ALBUM If her dream was releasing the year's biggest-selling album of the year, it may just come true. The Britain's Got Talent phenomenon has been topping pre-sales lists for weeks and is already breaking records across the pond. As for the album itself, there are some unusual choices for cover songs, such as the Rolling Stones classic Wild Horses.

5 Jack & Coke: Artie Lange

COMEDY Nothing's sacred for funnyman Lange. Not even the late great Heath Ledger. The filth flies in this live stand-up album from The Howard Stern Show regular, as everyone from Tony Romo to Mike Tyson turn toast on Lange's grilling machine. Really, the punch lines will leave you hungry for more.

6 Pirate Latitudes: Michael Crichton

BOOK Discovered by an assistant on the late author's computer, Latitudes is the writer's first posthumous novel. But this is no scientific thriller on the lines of Jurassic Park. As the title suggests, the story revolves around piracy in Jamaica in the 17th century. He should have just called it Pirates of the Caribbean IV.

7 Appshopper.com

TECH Bit of an app-aholic? Stay on top of the latest sales and deals on apps through this handy, little website. Price drops are updated regularly and you can be notified through RSS or email.

Mix of Six

Blue Rodeo

When: Friday, 7:30 p.m.
Where: The Centre In Vancouver For Performing Arts.

Blue Rodeo will be performing their second straight Vancouver show to promote their newest album, The Things We Left Behind. Info: ticketmaster.ca.

So You Think You Can Dance Canada, Top 10 Tour

When: Friday, 7:30 p.m.
Where: GM Place

Competition winner Tara-Jean Popowich, runner up Vincent Desjardins and the rest of the Top 10 dancer will perform various routines, from Salsa to Contemporary. Tix: $40 Info: Ticketmaster.ca

Winter Festival 2009

When: Saturday
Where: Britannia Community Centre

This holiday-themed family celebration includes ice skating with Santa, Wii games, treats and more. The event is free, but donations to the Greater Vancouver Food Bank are accepted.

Shirley Valentine

When: Saturday & Sunday
Where: Federic Wood Theatre

Nicola Cavendish performs this one-woman play about a neglected Liverpool housewife who makes a break from her mediocre existence.

Bright Nights

When: Friday, 3 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Where: Stanley Park Children's Farmyard

The 12th annual Bright Nights, which runs until Jan. 2, features a train ride through a forest transformed with millions of festive lights.

AIDS Benedict: Brunch with Benefits

When: Saturday & Sunday
Where: Participating restaurants

A number of Vancouver restaurants will donate proceeds from breakfasts sold during the fourth annual AIDS Benedict fundraiser.

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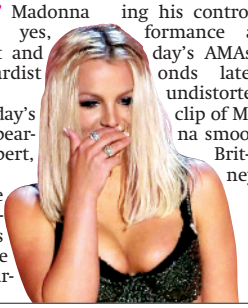
Hey, as long as she's not using it for singing
Avril Lavigne has her own and everyone else's tongues wagging after she was spotted kissing a mystery man in New York, reports RadarOnline.com. Lavigne was seen passionately making out with him on Tuesday. METRO WORLD NEWS

Celebrity Buzz

CBS 'double standard' over Adam Lambert smooch angers GLAAD

MEDIA 'CIRCUS' Madonna and Britney yes, Adam Lambert and male keyboardist no?

On Wednesday's Early Show appearance by Lambert, producers blurred the singer's open-mouth kiss with a male keyboardist during his controversial performance at Sunday's AMAs. Seconds later, an undistorted clip of Madonna smooching Britney Spears at the 2003 MTV VMAs ran.



What gives? A CBS rep explains: "We gave this some real thought. The Madonna image is very familiar and has appeared countless times including many times on morning television. The Adam Lambert image is a subject of great current controversy, has not been nearly as widely disseminated, and for all we know, may still lead to legal consequences."

Jarrett Barrios, President of GLAAD, called the edits "an unfortunate double standard that is applied to openly gay performers."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Miley admits Efron crush in order to relate to teen fans

SORRY, KEEP TRYING Miley Cyrus is trying to relate to her teenage fans despite her successful career, and she's found just the thing. "There are not many things about me that are like a normal teenage girl. But the one normal teenage girl thing is that I think Zac Efron is the hottest person in the world," the Hannah Montana star said in a interview with XM Satellite Radio. "I really, really like him. And it's weird. It's weird because he's my friend."

METRO WORLD NEWS

Love blasts Spears dad

STEP AWAY FROM THE TWITTER... Courtney Love is taking to her Twitter account again, alleging that Britney Spears was molested by her father. "Britney's dad molested her," she writes. "Imagine the father that molested you owning you for slavery while you're forced to sing songs picked for their sexual content every night. Insane right?"

METRO WORLD NEWS

Rihanna's advice on dealing with the rumour mill

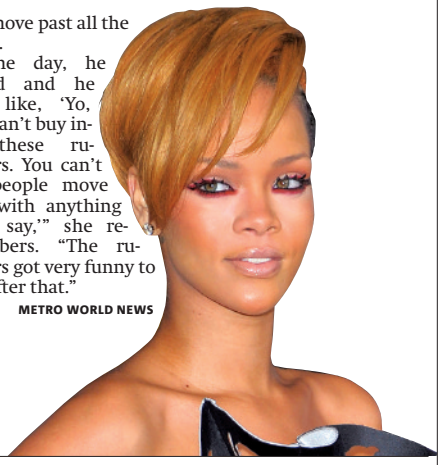
UMBRELLA-HA-HA-HA Rihanna admits that all the speculation from earlier in her career that she was having an affair with Jay-Z had a deep effect on her, and spills the beans on how she was able to overcome reading nasty rumours about herself in the tabloids.

"It was like, 'Of course she had to give Jay-Z oral sex to get that deal.

"That rumour was everywhere in Barbados and it was so disgusting," the singer says, according to Yahoo! News.

But advice from Jay-Z himself was what helped her move past all the press.

"One day, he called and he was like, 'Yo, you can't buy into these rumours. You can't let people move you with anything they say,'" she remembers. "The rumours got very funny to me after that."



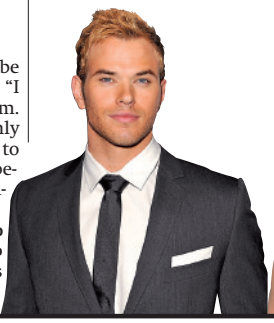
METRO WORLD NEWS

Kellan's playground kiss-and-tell

IT'S OK IF THIS STORY MAKES YOU FEEL A BIT CREEPY Twilight hunk Kellan Lutz has always been a hit with the ladies, ever since his very first kiss at the tender age of seven, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The 24-year-old actor, a former model, confesses he locked lips with a girl for the first time during a playground game of truth or dare — and his technique was a winner from the start. He tells People.com, "I was playing truth or dare when I had my first kiss. I was probably seven. I learned to hold the girl and I won as best kisser."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Celebrity tweets

Neil Patrick Harris wants a nomination but is afraid to ask for it, John Cleese wants his fans to show more devotion, and Sandra Bernhard has to replenish her Thanksgiving dessert supplies.

- @ActualNPH COUGH! COUGH! people's choiceCOUGH! awardCOUGH! Sorry, must be allergies...
- @JohnCleese Why aren't there more lookalikes of me? Rush out, and get surgery now!
- @SandraBernhard honey we are baking another pumpkin pie because we were up all night stealing pieces eating and going back to sleep

METRO WORLD NEWS

Diaz dishes on aging

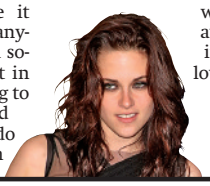
THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT MAALOX Cameron Diaz actually enjoys the aging process, she admits to Look magazine.

"I love getting older! I feel more self-possessed, which I think allows you to be more sexy, more confident. It's also natural that as I get older I play mothers and wives and be part of different kinds of films."

METRO WORLD NEWS

Twilight star continues to bemoan the celebrity life

YEAH... STILL DON'T FEEL SORRY FOR YOU Kristen Stewart admits that the huge success of the Twilight series has made it hard for her to have anything close to a normal social life. "You're caught in this dilemma of wanting to be a normal person and knowing that if you do go out and have fun that it might turn out to be a big story," she says. "I don't leave my hotel room. That's the only way to avoid being followed."



METRO WORLD NEWS

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Today Partly cloudy 8°/ 6°

Saturday Rain 80% 9°/ 7°

Sunday Rain 60% 9°/ 5°

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Take Five

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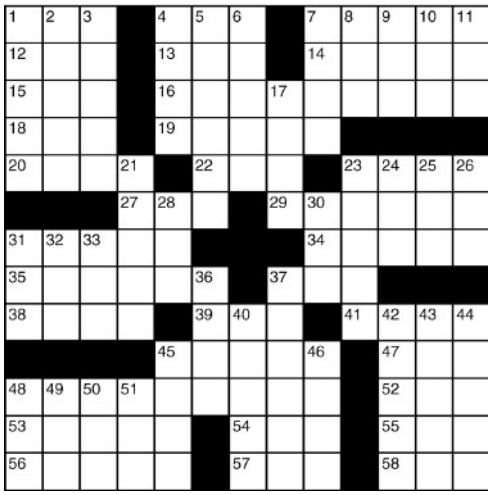

ACROSS

1 Confucian path
4 "Phooey!"
7 Enjoyed immensely
12 Tattooist's need
13 Kimono closer
14 Coup group
15 Literary collection
16 Dry red table wine
18 Agt.
19 Stranger
20 Graph line
22 One side of the Ural Mts.
23 Responsibility
27 Father and son
29 Fairly recent
31 Perpendicular, at sea
34 "Gasoline —"
35 Wicked
37 Regret
38 Versifier
39 Have bills
41 Aquarium
45 Pirate ship punishment site
47 Bill's partner
48 Weed used to make wine
52 Anderson's "High —"
53 Where the elated walk
54 Dead heat
55 My country, 'tis of thee
56 Capital of Belarus
57 Prior to
58 Corral

DOWN

1 Pageant winner's topper
2 Building wing
3 Giraffe's cousin
4 Legendary TV clown
5 Tolerates
6 Certain Indian
7 Open some
8 Large cask
9 Conclusion
10 Salt Lake athlete
11 Crony
17 Flowerless plant
21 Roundtree role
23 Little hooter
24 Zero
25 Work with
26 Bashful
28 Ostrich's kin
30 — de cologne
31 Cleo's slayer
32 Story of a lifetime?
33 Compass dir.
36 Lounge around
37 "The Bathers" painter
40 . .Ralph of "The Waltons"
42 Misbehave
43 Lasso part
44 Islam sacred text
45 Fringe benefit
46 Banjo supporter
48 Comical DeLuise
49 Blackbird
50 A Bobbsey twin
51 Insult

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

6	7						9	4
			6		7			
8		4				7		3
		3	5		4	1		
	8						4	
		7	2		1	9		
7		6				2		8
			1		9			
2	3						5	9

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

1	7	5	3	4	9	8	6	2
3	4	8	7	2	6	5	9	1
2	9	6	1	5	8	4	7	3
4	3	7	8	9	2	6	1	5
9	5	2	6	1	3	7	8	4
6	8	1	5	7	4	3	2	9
5	2	4	9	6	7	1	3	8
8	6	9	4	3	1	2	5	7
7	1	3	2	8	5	9	4	6

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca

Metro Recipe of the Day

Hasty Haddock with Tomato and Red Onion Salsa

INGREDIENTS:

1 red onion, halved and thinly sliced
4 tomatoes, halved and cores removed
1/4 tsp (1 ml) crushed chili flakes
1 tbsp (15 ml) chopped candied ginger
1 tsp (5 ml) sugar
1 tbsp (15 ml) tomato paste
1 tbsp (15 ml) red wine vinegar
3 tbsp (45 ml) olive oil
4 haddock fillets

METHOD:

1. Separate onion slices into shreds and put into bowl. Thinly slice tomatoes and add to bowl. Sprinkle in chili flakes, ginger and sugar, then stir in tomato paste and vinegar with seasoning to taste. Stir in 2 tbsp (25 ml) of olive oil and set aside.
2. Preheat broiler to high. Lightly oil broiler pan, then add haddock portions, skin side up, and brush with a little of remaining oil. Cook 3 minutes. Turn fish, brush with remaining oil and cook 3 minutes or until cooked through.
3. Divide salsa among four plates and lay haddock portions on top. Garnish with mustard and cress and serve immediately. aliquip ex ea commodo consequat.

SERVES 4

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Sort out your money situation today. You don't have to be too ruthless about it but you do have to make serious changes.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
What occurs today will take you by surprise and maybe even test your faith in someone you thought you could trust. Stand back from the situation.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Do you go out and have fun or stay in and get some work done today? If you are smart you will sacrifice short-term enjoyment for long-term fun.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
You have thought long and hard about what you want to do with your life – now you must make a decision and, having made it, stick to it.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
Something will happen today that shocks you. In return you will do something that shocks other people because it is completely out of character.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
Your schedule and your working routine is likely to be disrupted today and, to say the least, you won't be happy about it. Be flexible.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Yes you can, if you wish, make a drama out of a crisis, but what good would it do you? Your best response is no response at all

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
Your opinions about certain issues are likely to be somewhat confused. Don't worry: come the weekend you'll know all the answers again.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
In your rush to get things done today there is a danger that you could be a bit rough in the way you deal with other people. Don't be so harsh.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
Cosmic activity in the area of your chart that governs property, investments and joint finances may incline you to take risks. Be cautious.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
Cosmic activity in one of the more abrasive areas of your chart urges you to be careful when dealing with people in positions of power.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
You don't have the time to play games and anyone who avoids giving you a straight answer deserves to will feel the rough edge of your tongue.

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This day in history

1778: An expedition led by James Cook reached Maui, the second largest of the Hawaiian Islands.
1842: The University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana, USA, was founded as an all-male institution by members of the Roman Catholic Congregation of Holy Cross.
1942: World War II: Josip Broz Tito and the Yugoslav Partisans convened the first meeting of the Anti-Fascist Council of National Liberation of Yugoslavia
2008: A coordinated group of shooting and bombing attacks across Mumbai began, ultimately killing a total of 173 people and wounding more than 300 others.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

For more delicious Metro recipes, visit: **metronews.ca/food**

Take Five

Metro Recipes of the Day

SUSAN FINDLAY/THE CANADIAN PRESS

SUSAN FINDLAY/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Turkey Chili, left, will warm you on those cold days while Apple-Pear Upside Down Cake, right, is a perfect finish to any meal.

Turkey Chili

INGREDIENTS:

1 each onion, carrot and celery stalk, chopped
500 ml (2 cups) each cored, chopped apples and diced butternut squash
4 cloves garlic, finely chopped
500 g (1 lb) ground turkey, cooked
30 ml (2 tbsp) chili powder
15 ml (1 tbsp) ground cumin
5 ml (1 tsp) dried oregano
1 ml (1/4 tsp) each salt and freshly ground pepper
1 can (284 ml/10 oz) undiluted chicken broth
1 can (400 ml/15 oz) light coconut milk
30 ml (2 tbsp) tomato paste
250 ml (1 cup) canned black beans, drained and rinsed
Coconut flakes and cilantro, for garnish

METHOD:

• Combine all ingredients (except garnishes) in slow cooker.
• Cook on high for 4 to 6 hours or on low for 8 to 10 hours.
• Serve with rice or mashed potatoes.
• You can Use 1 l (4 cups) diced cooked turkey or chicken in place of ground turkey. Open lid for last 45 minutes of cooking to thicken, if desired. Mash the squash with the back of a wooden spoon to thicken further.

MAKES 8 TO 10 SERVINGS

Apple-Pear Upside Down Cake

INSIDE INGREDIENTS:

50 ml (1/4 cup) butter
125 ml (1/2 cup) lightly packed brown sugar
45 ml (3 tbsp) chopped toasted pecans
2 fresh apples
1 firm but ripe pear

CAKE INGREDIENTS:

375 ml (1 1/2 cups) all-purpose flour
175 ml (3/4 cup) granulated sugar
5 ml (1 tsp) baking powder
2 ml (1/2 tsp) each baking soda, cinnamon and ground ginger
1 ml (1/4 tsp) salt
75 ml (1/3 cup) butter, softened
1 egg
175 ml (3/4 cup) buttermilk
5 ml (1 tsp) vanilla

METHOD:

• Grease bottom and sides of 2.5-l (9-inch) square cake pan.
• Add butter and melt in a 180 C (350 F) oven.
• Stir in brown sugar and spread evenly in pan; sprinkle with pecans.
• Peel, core and thinly slice apples and pear, slicing pear horizontally; toss together and arrange evenly over sugar mixture.
• Cake: In a bowl, combine flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda, cinnamon, ginger and salt.
• Add butter, egg, buttermilk and vanilla.
• With electric mixer, beat at low speed until moistened; beat at medium speed for 1 minute, scraping side of bowl.
• Spoon over fruit and spread evenly.
• Bake in a 180 C (350 F) oven for about 45 minutes or until cake tester comes out clean.
• Let cool on rack for 10 minutes.
• Run knife around edge of cake and carefully invert onto plate, replacing any bits that may stick to pan. Serve warm.

MAKES 8 TO 10 SERVINGS

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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